

Appendix 8-1

Visual Impact Assessment

Visual Impact Assessment

Case No. 21-00752

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Riverside Solar Project

Towns of Lyme and Brownville, New
York

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	Regulatory Requirement and Methodology	1
1.2	Facility Description	1
2.0	CHARACTER OF THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE	3
3.0	DISTANCE ZONES	7
4.0	LANDSCAPE SIMILARITY ZONES	8
5.0	SCENIC RESOURCE INVENTORY	12
5.1	Scenic Resource Inventory	13
6.0	VIEWSHED ANALYSIS, LINE-OF-SIGHT PROFILES, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC SIMULATION – METHODOLOGY	17
6.1	Viewshed Analysis	17
6.1.1	Methodology	18
6.1.2	Assumptions and Limitations of the Viewshed Analysis	19
6.2	Line-of-Sight Profiles	19
6.3	Photographic Simulations.....	20
6.3.1	Simulation Methodology	20
6.3.2	Viewpoint Selection for Photographic Simulations	21
7.0	ADDITIONAL APPLICABLE VISUAL CONCEPTS TO CONSIDER: VIEWER CHARACTERISTICS.....	21
8.0	VISUAL IMPACT RATING	23
9.0	VISUAL IMPACT ANALYSIS RESULTS	25
9.1	Viewshed Results and Discussion.....	25
9.1.1	Viewshed Summary.....	25
9.1.2	Visibility of the Solar Panels within the Identified Landscape Similarity Zones.....	27
9.1.3	Visibility of the Solar Panels on Identified Visual Resources.....	28
9.1.4	Viewshed Results for Collection Substation	31
9.2	Photographic Simulation and LOS Results and Discussion	32
9.2.1.1	Viewpoint 6: Morris Tract Road	34
9.2.1.2	Viewpoint 11: Case Road	34
9.2.1.3	Viewpoint 13: Case Road	35
9.2.1.4	Viewpoint 16: Case Road	36
9.2.1.5	Viewpoint 29: NYS Route 12E.....	36
9.2.1.6	Viewpoint 30: NYS Route 12E.....	37
9.2.1.7	Viewpoint 37: Weaver Road	38

9.2.1.8	Viewpoint 40: Morris Tract Road	38
9.2.1.9	Viewpoint 42: County Route 125	39
9.2.1.10	Viewpoint 44: County Route 59	40
9.2.1.11	Viewpoint 45: NYS Route 12E	41
9.2.1.12	Viewpoint 49: G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field	41
9.2.2	Discussion – Line of Sight Results	42
9.2.2.1	LOS 1 – Case Road	43
9.2.2.1	LOS 2 – Chaumont Historic District	43
9.3	Visual Impact Rating Results	43
9.3.1	Part 1 Contrast Rating	47
9.3.2	Part 2 Viewer Sensitivity	48
9.3.3	Part 3 Scenic Quality	49
10.0	LIGHTING	49
11.0	MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION PLAN	50
11.1	Siting and Design	50
11.2	Planting Plan	51
12.0	VISIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION	53
13.0	SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS – VISUAL IMPACTS DURING OPERATION	53
14.0	REFERENCES	59

TABLES

Table 1.	Available Traffic Data within the Visual Study Area	5
Table 2.	Population Data within the Visual Study Area	6
Table 3.	Percentage of Landscape Similarity Zones within 2-Mile Visual Study Area	11
Table 4.	Inventory of Aesthetic Resources within the Two-Mile Visual Study Area	13
Table 5.	Percent Visibility (Screened) of Panels within Each Distance Zone	26
Table 6.	Percent Visibility (Topography Only) of Panels within Each Distance Zone	26
Table 7.	Percent Visibility of Panels within Landscape Similarity Zones Within the Visual Study Area	27
Table 8.	Percent Visibility (Screened) of the Substation within Each Distance Zones	32
Table 9.	Photographic Simulation Locations	33
Table 10.	Line-of-Sight Profiles	42
Table 11.	Visual Impact Rating Results	45

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Site Plan

Attachment 2: Maps:

Figure 1. Landscape Similarity Zones

Figure 2. Overview of Aesthetic Resources and PV Panel Viewshed

Figure 3. Potential Visibility and Aesthetic Resources for Solar Panels

Figure 4. Potential Visibility and Aesthetic Resources for Collection Station

Attachment 3: Existing Landscape Photolog

Attachment 4: Landscape Plan and Electrical Layout

Attachment 5: Photo Simulations and Line-of-Sight Profiles

Attachment 6: Outreach Correspondence

Attachment 7: Photo Simulation Contrast Rating

Attachment 8: Aesthetic Resources – 2 to 5 Miles

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Riverside Solar, LLC, a subsidiary of The AES Corporation (AES), is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain the Riverside Solar Project (the Facility). Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant) is submitting their application under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

1.1 Regulatory Requirement and Methodology

This Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) has been prepared to comply with Exhibit 8 of 19 NYCRR §900.2.9 so that the extent and significance of the Facility's visibility can be determined. This VIA will include the identification of sensitive aesthetic resources, viewshed mapping, photographic simulations, and proposed visual mitigation. Within the framework of the Exhibit 8 requirements, this VIA will address the following:

- The character and visual quality of the existing landscape.
- The visibility of the Facility (above ground elements).
- The appearance of the Facility (photographic simulations) from key locations.
- The nature and degree of visual change resulting from construction and operation of the Facility.
- Identification of those visual resources that will have visibility of the Facility.

By addressing the stated requirements, this VIA will include both a quantitative and qualitative assessment that will allow reviewing agencies and the public to understand the anticipated visibility of the Facility, and potential visual impacts and their significance. The study area (referred to as the "visual study area" or "VSA") for this VIA will extend two miles around the fence line of the proposed Facility.

1.2 Facility Description

The Riverside Solar Facility will have a generating capacity of up to 100 megawatts (MW) and will be located on land leased from owners of private property in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. The Facility will comprise of commercial-scale solar arrays (or panels), access roads, electric collection lines, a collection substation, and electrical interconnection infrastructure. Refer to Figure 1 in Attachment 1 for the site plan.

Solar Panels and Arrays: The Applicant intends to utilize a bifacial solar module similar to the Jinko Solar Tiger Pro 72HC-TV 530W Bifacial Module with 3.2 mm Anti-Reflection Coating. The Facility will utilize a single axis tracking system (allows the panels to follow the sun in an east to west direction) such as the DuraTrack HZ v3 by Array Technologies. Technical data sheets have been included in the Appendices 2-1 and 2-2.

The maximum height, at full tilt, of the proposed tracker system will only be sustained for a relatively short period of time during daylight hours as it will make continuous angle adjustments to follow the sun. For example, it may lay flat near mid-day when the sun is directly overhead resulting in a panel height considerably lower than its maximum height for a substantial amount of time during the day.

For the purposes of this report, it is anticipated that the maximum height of the panels will be eight feet and eleven inches.

Inverters: Inverters will be located throughout the Facility to convert the direct current (DC) electricity generated by the solar modules into alternating current (AC) electricity. Cables from the solar modules are routed to the inverters using a CAB® cabling system or underground lines. The collection lines then convey electricity from the inverters underground to the Facility collection substation and ultimately to the existing electric transmission system. The Applicant intends to use Power Electronics HEM inverters, or a similar make/model. Technical data sheets are included in the Appendix 5-2.

Collection Lines: The 34.5 kilovolt (kV) collection lines will connect the inverters to the Facility collection substation. Collection lines will be installed underground via direct burial and horizontal directional drilling.

Facility Collection Substation: The 34.5 kV collection lines within the Facility Site¹ will collect electricity from the inverters and transport it to a new collection substation, located in the north central portion of the Facility Site, where the voltage will be stepped up to 115 kV. Plan and profile drawings, including a lighting plan associated with the collection substation are included in the Exhibit 5 Appendices.

Point of Interconnection (POI) Facilities: Power from the collection substation will then be transferred 250 feet to the existing National Grid Thousand Island – Coffeen Street #4 Lyme Tap 115 kV transmission line. The collector substation and POI facilities will be transferred to National Grid to own, maintain, and operate.

Access Roads: Roads within the Facility Site used to access the solar panels will follow existing farm roads and trails, where practicable, to minimize the need for new roads and associated land disturbances. The same access roads used during construction will be used during operation of the Facility and will be 20 feet wide and gravel surfaced.

Fencing: Fencing will be placed around the perimeter of the Facility and associated structures as required by the National Electric Code (NEC). Fencing will be chain-link and seven feet in

¹ The Facility Site consists of land that is currently leased by the Applicant and can therefore be defined as properties belonging to participating landowners. Facility site does not designate the specific area within the fenced in area, which is referred to as the Facility.

height. Around the perimeter of the substation, the fence will be six feet in height, topped with one-foot barbed wire.

2.0 CHARACTER OF THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE

Characteristics of the existing landscape may be broken down into basic features including landform, vegetation, water, and land use and development. Understanding the characteristics of the landscape is imperative to understand how a proposed development may affect or change it.

The Facility is located approximately 0.5 miles east of Sawmill Bay and 8.7 miles northwest of the City of Watertown. The VSA is rural in nature and primarily consists of forested lands, wooded wetlands, open land that also includes agricultural uses (hay/pasture and cultivated crops), transportation uses (e.g., New York State [NYS] Route 12E), as well as rural residential land (e.g., Village of Chaumont). The Facility is located within AR (Agricultural and Rural Residential), WO (Wind Overlay) and AR-2 (Agricultural Residential 2) zoning districts for the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, respectively.

Various views of the rural character and the nature of roadways found within the VSA are contained in the Existing Landscape Photolog (Attachment 3).

Landform

The Towns are located within the Ontario Lowland physiographic region, which can be characterized as having highly variable terrain comprised of glacial tills typical of the eastern shore of Lake Ontario. However, the landscape within the VSA generally appears to be relatively flat or gently sloping. Elevations range from approximately 250 feet above sea level (ASL) along Chaumont Bay upwards to approximately 415 feet ASL in the northeast section of the VSA in the vicinity of Depauville Road. Also, along the Chaumont River, steep terrain is noticeable from the water's edge to the south towards County Route 179. Within the Facility Site, the elevation ranges between 270 and 361 feet ASL.

Vegetation

Historically, forest vegetation within this region of New York State was dominated by beech, sugar maples and smaller amounts of white oak, basswood, hemlock, pine, elm, and white ash. Although forests once covered the entire region, agricultural uses and land development resulted in a significant amount of vegetation removal; only scattered second growth woodlots remain. These species are also visible within hedgerows, fallow fields, and lands generally not suitable for development or agricultural uses (e.g., ravines, wetlands).

Water

Water is an integral part of the landscape, specifically within the western edge of the VSA. Caumont Bay (including Sawmill and Guffin Bays) provides a gateway to Lake Ontario and the

St. Lawrence River (Thousand Islands region); offering individuals with a variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. East of the Bay's irregular shaped shoreline and adjacent lands, water resources become less noticeable and dominant.

Outside the Bay, the second most noticeable resource is likely to be the Chaumont River. Approximately 2.6 miles² of the River is in the northwest portion of the VSA. It has a westerly flow that empties into the Chaumont Bay and exhibits a varying width from approximately 80 to 470 feet within this section.

In addition, the VSA contains additional water resources such as Horse Creek, Guffin Creek, scattered wetlands, streams, and ponds. Generally, these are less noticeable within the landscape.

Land Use and Development

The VSA is rural in nature and as such dominated by forest and agriculture. In this setting, development is generally seen along transportation corridors and within community settings (e.g., villages, hamlets, roadside).

Transportation

Although limited in number, different types of transportation corridors, or roadways, are evident. These roadways range from the two-lane paved state route that sees a higher number of users to the narrower one-lane gravel road accommodating a limited number of users.

The primary roadway within the VSA is NYS Route 12E, which is a two-lane asphalt rural highway that travels in a north-south direction. Route 12E is approximately 36 miles in total length (nearly 5.6 miles are within the VSA) connecting the Village of Brownville from the south and terminating in the Village of Clayton. This roadway is identified as a minor arterial by New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)³ therefore providing higher travel speeds and minimal disruptions to traveling vehicles. In addition, this roadway is also part of the 518-mile Great Lakes Seaway Trail that extends from the Pennsylvania/Ohio State border to Rooseveltown, New York⁴.

In addition to NYS Route 12E, a small segment of NYS Route 180 as well as numerous county and local roads traverse the area in a variety of directions. These roadways are generally lightly traveled and include, but are not limited to: Case Road, Depauville Road, Moffatt Road, Morris Tract Road, Old Town Springs Road, Pillar Point Road, Smith Road, Walrath Road, Weaver Road, County Route 59 (North Shore Road), County Route 125, and County Route 179. These account for the largest percentage of total roadway miles within the VSA. They tend to be shorter in length (relative to region) and primarily facilitate direct access to property owners with many

² Measured from the VSA boundary to the Route 12E bridge.

³ Existing roadways fall into three functional classifications (arterial, collector, and local) as defined by NYSDOT Office of Technical Services. <https://gis.dot.ny.gov/html5viewer/?viewer=FC>

⁴ <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/byways/2488>

driveways and access points. Roads are typically two-lane (stripped or not) with asphalt pavement, and some being narrow gravel surfaced (seasonal) roads with limited shoulder and roadside treatments. In addition, some of these roadways may experience roadside vegetation in close proximity to the travel lanes.

To assist in further describing the rural nature of the area and thus providing an understanding of the quantity of viewers by road travel, annual average daily traffic (AADT)⁵ counts are presented in Table 1 for roadways available from the NYSDOT *Traffic Data Viewer*⁶. As identified, NYS Route 12E has the highest AADT between NYS Route 180 and County Route (CR) 59. The least traveled road based on the information available is Morris Tract Road. For perspective, Interstate 81 in Watertown area has an AADT of 25,704.

Table 1. Available Traffic Data within the Visual Study Area

Route/ Road Name	From	To	AADT
NYS Route 12E	NYS Route 180	County Route (CR) 59	5,425
NYS Route 12E	CR 59	CR 125	4,348
NYS Route 12E	CR 125	CR 179	5,287
NYS Route 12E	CR 179	CR 8	4,791
NYS Route 12E	CR 8	CR 57	2,786
CR 8 (Millens Bay Road)	Root Road	NYS Route 12E	1,119
CR 179 (Old State Route)	NYS Route 12E	CR 54	437
Morris Tract Road	Chaumont Village Line	Brownville Town Line	222
CR 54 (DePaulville Road)	Witt Road	Morris Tract Road	598
CR 54 (DePaulville Road)	Morris Tract Road	Factory Street	654
CR 125	NYS Route 12E	Begin 18 PAVT	448
CR 125	Begin 18 PAVT	Chaumont Village Line	386
Pillar Point Road	NYS Route 12E	Moffett Road	227

⁵ AADT is a measure used primarily in transportation planning and transportation engineering. Traditionally, it is the total volume of vehicle traffic of a highway or road for a year divided by 365 days.

⁶ <https://www.dot.ny.gov/tdv>

Community/Residential

The highest amount of development is seen within the waterfront community of the Village of Chaumont (the Village). The Village is located on Chaumont Bay within the Town of Lyme and is part of what is known as the “Golden Crescent” – an area along the lakeshore that runs from Cape Vincent to Sackets Harbor. This small village is characterized by a well-defined downtown area where most commercial uses are along Route 12E, with residential neighborhoods located to the south. Uses within the Village consist of residential (permanent and seasonal), religious, educational, recreational, and commercial. The density of development within the Village is moderate and drops significantly outside the municipal boundary as it quickly transitions to agricultural land. No portion of the proposed Facility is located within the Village.

Outside the Village, development (i.e., residential and commercial) within the Towns of Lyme and Brownville is scarce and generally found to be along roadways. Both Towns contain a significant amount of agricultural and forested land.

Overall, the VSA contains a limited number of residents. Populations are identified below and are sourced from The U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates:

Table 2. Population Data within the Visual Study Area

Municipality	Population	Population Density ⁷
Town of Brownville	6,213	105
Town of Clayton	4,969	60
Town of Lyme	2,303	41
Village of Chaumont	827	841

Existing Energy Infrastructure

Infrastructure of varying heights, materials and configurations may be seen within the VSA. These may consist of the following:

⁷ Number of residents per square mile.

- Transmission structures vary from single wooden poles (as seen along roadsides) carrying electricity to local customers to large structures carrying high voltage lines. Adjacent to the Facility is a National Grid Lyme to Lyme Tap 115kV line utilizing wooden H-frame structures of various heights. The associated substation is approximately 1.4 acres in size and located along County Route 179 (1.65 miles west of the proposed substation).
- Convergent Energy + Power Project – This is a 23MW solar development located on approximately 139 acres of a 236.5-acre parcel of land located along County Route 179 (adjacent to the National Grid substation identified above). The project consists of a ground mounted photovoltaic system, battery storage, and needed infrastructure to connect to the existing electrical grid.



Convergent Energy + Power Project from County Route 179.

3.0 DISTANCE ZONES

Three zones, the distance between the Facility fence line and observer, are identified as: foreground, middleground, and background. These distance zones are based on definitions contained in *The U.S. Forest Service Landscape Aesthetics – A Handbook for Scenery Management* (U.S. Forest Service Handbook) (1995). Although the effects of distance are dependent on the characteristics of the landscape (topography, vegetation, etc.), each zone provides guidance to the level of visual detail and acuity of objects. Distance zones have been reasonably modified from the U.S. Forest Service Handbook to accommodate the required VSA, as well as considerations such as the size (height) of the Facility, and the level of anticipated visibility.

As it is expected that far-reaching vistas will be limited to a low-profile project, the following Distance Zones have been identified:

- Foreground (up to 0.5 miles from the viewer): This is the closest distance at which details, such as textures and color, of the landscape and the solar panels can be seen. Individual landscape forms are typically dominant, and individual panel strings and racking system detail may be seen. Scale of the proposed Facility when compared to the immediately surrounding landscape is at its highest.

Due to the low-profile of the proposed facility, as part of the Foreground, locations immediately adjacent (within 300 feet) to the Facility may be considered to be within the Immediate Foreground distance zone. This is to be considered as part of the overall Foreground distance zone, but as described by the U.S. Forest Services, this is where the detail and contrast may be at its highest.

- Middleground (0.5 to 2 miles from the viewer): At this distance, individual tree forms and buildings can still be distinguished. However, the middleground is defined as the point where the texture and form of individual plants are no longer visibly acute in the landscape. In some areas, atmospheric conditions can reduce visibility and shorten the distance normally covered by each zone. Solar panels lose their level of detail and are seen as a contiguous mass of form and/or color. Contrasts of color and texture lessen as colors take on a bluish hue and details begin to merge.
- Background (2 to 5 miles from the viewer to the horizon): At the extent of background distances, texture disappears, and color flattens but large light and dark patterns of vegetation or open land due to shape or color are distinguishable and ridgelines and horizon lines are the dominant visual characteristics. Landscapes are simplified and are viewed in groups or patterns. Solar panels can be detected as a distant form and color change but are not as discernible.

Although the VSA is limited to two miles, the description of the Background distance zone is still provided above, as it is important to recognize the progression of visual acuity that occurs from the Foreground to Background.

4.0 LANDSCAPE SIMILARITY ZONES

Landscape Similarity Zones (LSZs) are areas of similar landscape and character based on patterns of landform, vegetation, water resources, land use, and user activity. These zones provide additional context for evaluating viewer circumstances where relationships between viewer groups and visual experience can be made. For example, a viewer's experience will be different in a forested area compared to open water. Viewer groups, as well as potential viewer frequency and duration of view can also be related to the specific LSZ they are within.

GIS land cover classification datasets from the 2016 United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD) were used for an initial establishment of LSZs as they provide distinct and usable landscape categories. These NLCD land cover groupings were then refined based on aerial photo interpretation and general field review. This effort resulted in the definition of five LSZs as depicted in Table 3 and on Figure 1, Attachment 2, and include the following:

Agricultural Landscape Similarity Zone – This LSZ is characteristic of open land, including that which is used for row crops, hay or pasture, or left fallow. These lands are relatively flat to rolling and may contain small, wooded areas, and hedgerows. Development would be limited and sparsely located; single family homes and farmsteads (including barns and silos) make up the majority of built structures and are likely found along the County Routes or local roads that bisect this LSZ. Where available, structures, hedgerows, vegetated lined waterways/ravines, and woodlots can screen views, whether short or long distant, toward to the proposed Facility.



Agricultural Land along Case Road.

Residential dwellings in close proximity (e.g., along Case Road and Weaver Road) to the Facility may have a higher likelihood of receiving open views, long in duration, of the Facility. This will be especially true should there be no roadside vegetation providing some level of screening. Views from those using the local roadways may be partial or open but will be fleeting and visibility will be dependent on the road.

Agricultural lands are most often privately owned and while they may be abundant in a particular area the numbers of the viewing public is likely low. In addition, this LSZ includes the Bay Breeze Golf Links as it has a similar appearance to the agricultural fields.

Forested Landscape Similarity Zone – This LSZ includes mature deciduous and coniferous woodlands in uplands, wetlands, or other undevelopable parcels of land. Forested areas are typically large tracts of land likely owned by private entities or the State. Those forested lands owned by public entities (e.g., New York State Department of Environmental Conservation [NYSDEC]) may offer the public with recreational activities such as hunting, nature viewing, hiking, camping, etc. Development will be limited and likely found along roadways.

Views may be very limited as opportunities for outward viewing of the surrounding landscape will be minimized by the tree canopy or large tree groupings. It should be noted that views through the vegetation may be available during leaf-off conditions but is likely to be confined to areas along the edge of this LSZ.

Village Landscape Similarity Zone – This LSZ solely consists of the Village of Chaumont, which is the primary residential and commercial center in the VSA. The Village is characterized by built structures and streets. The structures and vegetation (e.g., street trees, site landscaping) that are seen within the community generally results in views that are short in distance. Views (open or partially screened) of the surrounding landscape are more readily available the closer one gets to the municipal boundary; this may occur through foreground vegetation or as a result fewer structures. An open view to the Chaumont Bay is seen where Route 12E crosses the Chaumont River.

Transportation Corridor Landscape Similarity Zone – This LSZ includes NYS Route 12E (and the immediately adjacent land), which is the major thoroughfare through the western portion of the VSA. As the most heavily traveled road, it will receive a high number of transient users experiencing a variety of views. In addition to a higher rate of speed (45 miles per hour outside the Village of Chaumont), those using Route 12E will encounter an increased number of vehicles, thus the focus of the driver will be on navigating the roadway. The view along the corridor will include pavement, wide shoulders, vehicles, and roadside structures and vegetation (where available). There will also be views of the surrounding landscape, however it will be fleeting or short in duration.



Village of Chaumont Downtown from NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail (top photo) and Residential Area along Washington Street (bottom photo).



New York State Route 12E.

Open Water Landscape Similarity Zone – This LSZ includes water bodies located within the western portion of the VSA - namely the Chaumont, Guffin and Sawmill Bays (together referred to as the Chaumont Bay). Large water bodies are by nature very open and may afford views to the nearby landscape. A variety of recreational opportunities may be found that includes boating and (ice) fishing; the potential duration of a particular view may be contingent on the user activity. For instance, those fishing may experience views for a longer duration of time versus those enjoying a boat ride.



Chaumont Bay from the NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail.

View's inland is limited by waterfront vegetation, development, and topography. Outside the shoreline development contributed by that within the Village of Chaumont, residential structures (single-family residences, and seasonal cottages and camps) of varying scale and density are also visible. Generally, all of the shoreline structures take advantage of water views.

This LSZ also contains the Chaumont River. Although it does not appear to offer much in the way of public access or recreational opportunities, it is a notable water feature. Should an individual be on the River, they are not likely susceptible to long distant views to the adjacent landscape as a result of the adjacent vegetation and topographic changes; rivers are located at low valley elevations where higher topography on either side could block views to the nearby landscape. Views would likely be up and down river.

Table 3 summarizes the percentage of LSZs in the VSA.

Table 3. Percentage of Landscape Similarity Zones within 2-Mile Visual Study Area

LSZ	Foreground Distance Zone		Middleground Distance Zone			
	Square Miles	Percent of LSZ within the VSA	Square Miles	Percent of LSZ within the VSA	Total Square Miles of LSZ	Total Percent of LSZ in VSA
Agricultural	5.55	17.0%	13.70	41.95%	19.25	58.94%
Forested	1.92	5.88%	9.33	28.57%	11.25	34.44%
Village	0.09	0.28%	0.17	0.52%	0.26	0.80%
Transportation Corridor	0.06	0.18%	0.19	0.58%	0.26	0.80%
Open Water	0.02	0.06%	1.63	4.99%	1.64	5.02%
Totals	7.64	23.40%	25.02	76.61%	32.66	100.00%

Based on the above Table, it is clearly identified that the Agricultural and Forested LSZ's are co-dominant and occupy 58.9% and 34.4% of the land within the VSA, respectively. In addition, they also occur in similar percentages to each other throughout each of the two Zone's. In comparison the Village and Transportation Corridor each represents 0.8% of the land.

5.0 SCENIC RESOURCE INVENTORY

An inventory of publicly available and accessible local, county, state, and federally recognized visual resources were identified within a two-mile VSA. These resources were collected using various sources including local and state websites, town, county and agency reports, mapping, GIS data, and site visits.

In identifying appropriate resources, TRC utilized the following categories that are outlined in the regulations:

- 1) Landmark landscapes;
- 2) Wild, scenic or recreational rivers administered by NYSDEC, APA or Department of the Interior;
- 3) Forest preserve lands,
- 4) Scenic vistas specifically identified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan,
- 5) Conservation easement lands,
- 6) Scenic byways designated by the federal or state governments;
- 7) Scenic districts and scenic roads, designated by the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation;
- 8) Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance;
- 9) State parks.
- 10) Historic sites listed or eligible on the National/State Registers of Historic Places⁸;
- 11) Areas covered by scenic easements, public parks or recreation areas;
- 12) Locally designated historic or scenic districts and scenic overlooks; and
- 13) High-use public areas.

As part of this effort, the Comprehensive Land Use Plans for the Village of Chaumont (2010) and Town of Lyme (2010) were reviewed to specifically identify potential sensitive areas or applicable

⁸ TRC was provided listed and eligible historic sites (referred to as "sites") by the SHPO; these sites were identified by SHPO and the Register of Historic Places (NRHP). For additional information relating to the cultural and historic resources, please refer to Exhibit 9 of the Application as well as the Historic Architectural Resources Survey and Effects Report (included as Appendix 9-3) for greater detail on the cultural resources investigations and results.

scenic (aesthetic) resources. Based on the review of these documents, a common theme presented itself in that select local roads (NYS Route 12E, Morris Tract Road), water views (particularly of Chaumont Bay), and open views of the countryside were of importance. However, specific views of significance are not readily identified in the existing landscape to the casual observer (maps contained in the comprehensive plans gave general locations), and as noted, protection of such vistas must be balanced with development (employment opportunities, revenue, etc.) and environmental needs.

In addition to the research undertaken by TRC, an information request was sent out to representative from the Towns of Brownville and Lyme, Jefferson County, the NYS State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES). These agencies were contacted via email on April 26, 2021 and/or May 5, 2021 and provided a preliminary visual report that included the extent and findings of the preliminary visibility study, at that point in time. As part of this outreach, it offered an opportunity for the agencies to append additional visual resources of concern and suggest those locations of interest for the development of simulations. Two of the agencies provided feedback, the Town of Lyme on May 13, 2021, and ORES on May 21, 2021. In addition, the Applicant and TRC meet with representatives from the Town of Lyme on May 24, 2021 and subsequent correspondence occurred on June 2, 2021 and June 30, 2021. Additional resources and areas of concern were provided and are included in Table 4.

5.1 Scenic Resource Inventory

Table 3 lists 44 resources that adhere to the categories identified above and have been confirmed through feedback by the Town of Lyme. The location of each resource is numerically referenced on the below table and shown on Figures 2 and 3 in Attachment 2.

Table 4. Inventory of Aesthetic Resources within the Two-Mile Visual Study Area

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)	LSZ ¹	Potential Visibility ²
Scenic Byways					
1	NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail ³	Towns of Brownville and Lyme, Village of Chaumont	0.15 mi (792 ft)	T	Yes
Historic Sites					
	<i>Historic Districts – Listed⁴</i>				
2	Chaumont Historic District (USN 04548.000116)	Town of Lyme	0.5 (2,640 ft)	V	No

Table 4. Inventory of Aesthetic Resources within the Two-Mile Visual Study Area

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)	LSZ ¹	Potential Visibility ²
	<i>Historic Sites – Listed (outside of the listed district)</i>				
3	Chaumont House (USN 04548.000003)	Village of Chaumont	0.87 (4,594 ft)	V	No
4	George House (USN 04548.000037)	Village of Chaumont	0.64 (3,379 ft)	V	No
5	George Brothers Building (USN 04548.000038)	Village of Chaumont	0.4 (2,112 ft)	V	No
6	Grange Hall and Dairymen's League (USN 04548.000039)	Village of Chaumont	0.37 (1,954 ft)	V	No
7	Leray-Clark House/Evans-Gaige/Dillenback (USN 04548.000001)	Village of Chaumont	0.76 (4,013 ft)	V	No
	<i>Historic Sites - Eligible</i>				
8	Cedar Grove Cemetery (USN 04548.000036)	Village of Chaumont	0.60 (3,168 ft)	V	No
9	27375 Washington St. (USN 04548.000071)	Village of Chaumont	0.66 (3,485 ft)	A	No
10	St. Paul's ME Church (USN 04548.000034)	Village of Chaumont	0.59 (3,115 ft)	V	No
11	11792 NYS Route 12E (USN 04548.000100)	Village of Chaumont	0.73 (3,854 ft)	V	No
12	27587 Water St. (USN 04548.000124)	Village of Chaumont	0.93 (4,910 ft)	V	No
13	27605 Water St. (USN 04548.000123)	Village of Chaumont	0.91 (4,805 ft)	V	No
14	Barnes Bay Cemetery (USN 04548.000123)	Village of Chaumont	1.17 (6,178 ft)	A	No
15	27707 Water St. (USN 04513.000122)	Town of Lyme	0.85 (4,488 ft)	V	No
16	New Cedar Grove Cemetery (USN 04548.000196)	Village of Chaumont	1.99 (10,057 ft)	A	No
17	Freeman Cemetery	Town of Brownville	0.07 (370 ft)	A	No

Table 4. Inventory of Aesthetic Resources within the Two-Mile Visual Study Area

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)	LSZ ¹	Potential Visibility ²
44	27490 Washington Street (USN 04548.000119)	Village of Chaumont	0.62 (3,274 ft)	V	No
Public Parks or Recreation Areas					
18	Veterans Memorial Public Park (under construction)	Village of Chaumont	0.34 (1,795 ft)	A	No
19	Lyme Central School and Playing Fields	Village of Chaumont	0.78 (4,118 ft)	V	No
20	NYS Chaumont Boat Launch	Village of Chaumont	1.38 (7,286 ft)	W	No
21	Village of Chaumont Public Beach	Village of Chaumont	1.24 (6,547 ft)	A	No
22	Local Park	Village of Chaumont	1.16 (6,125 ft)	V	No
23	G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field	Town of Lyme	0.04 (211 ft)	A	Yes
24	Walt Putnam Memorial Field	Town of Lyme	1.83 (9,662 ft)	A	No
25	Memorial Park	Village of Chaumont	0.42 (2,218 ft)	V	No
26	Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Towns of Clayton and Lyme	0.4 (2,112 ft)	F	No
27	Limerick Cedars Preserve	Town of Brownville	1.1 (5,808 ft)	F	No
28	Snowmobile Trails (trail C5J)	Towns of Brownville, Clayton and Lyme, Village of Chaumont	0.0	All	Yes
32	Bay Breeze Golf Links	Town of Lyme	1.68 (8,870 ft)	A	No
38	Lyme Lane	Village of Chaumont	0.78 (4,118 ft)	A	No
39	Chaumont Bay	Town of Lyme	1.54 (8,131 ft)	W	No

Table 4. Inventory of Aesthetic Resources within the Two-Mile Visual Study Area

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)	LSZ ¹	Potential Visibility ²
High-Use Public Areas					
29	Village of Chaumont	Village of Chaumont	0.00	V	Yes
30	Bearup Marine / Crescent Yacht Club	Village of Chaumont	0.69 (3,643 ft)	A	No
31	Chaumont Bay Marina	Village of Chaumont	0.99 (5,227 ft)	V	No
33	Chaumont River RV Park & Campground	Town of Lyme	1.13 (5,966 ft)	F	No
34	Sportsman Hideaway Campground	Town of Lyme	1.86 (9,821 ft)	F	No
35	Chaumont Yacht Club	Village of Chaumont	0.44 (2,323 ft)	A	No
36	Lyme Rod and Gun Club	Town of Lyme	0.59 (3,115 ft)	A	Yes
37	Chez Heron	Village of Chaumont	0.48 (2,534 ft)	V	No
Other					
40	Independence Point	Town of Lyme	1.37 (7,234 ft)	A	No
41	Morris Tract Road ⁵	Village of Chaumont, Towns of Lyme, Brownville, and Clayton	0.00	A	Yes
42	County Route 125	Village of Chaumont and Town of Lyme	0.22 (1,162 ft)	A	Yes
43	Hart Road / Park Drive	Village of Chaumont, Town of Lyme	0.77 (4,065 ft)	F	No

¹ A = Agricultural, F = Forested, V = Village, T = Transportation Corridor, W = Open Water

² Expected visibility is based on LiDAR-based viewshed analysis results that include topography, trees, and buildings per §900-2.9 (b)(1), as it is the most reasonable and accurate depiction of landscape conditions.

³ Route 12E is also a designated bikeway. Similarly, to other roadways it will cross various LSZ's.

⁴ The Chaumont Historic District is comprised of, and represents, a grouping of historic sites. These sites include, but are not limited to the Copley House, and the McPhearson House. Both of which were identified by the Town of Lyme, as well as the Chez Heron facility (its appearance is that of a limestone castle), and the Lyme Road and Gun Club.

⁵ Morris Tract Road, and County Route 125 and the Hart Road/Park Drive corridors are local roads of scenic quality based on the Village of Chaumont and Town of Lyme Comprehensive Land Use Plans, respectively.

Of those visual resources identified within the VSA, seven will have the potential to view the proposed Facility and are further discussed below in Section 9.1.3. These include:

- NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail;
- The C5J Snowmobile Trail;
- The G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field;
- Lyme Road & Gun Club;
- Village of Chaumont;
- Morris Tract Road; and
- County Route 125.

Resources that were found as not having visibility based on the viewshed mapping were removed from further analysis.

Given that the character of the VSA is mostly rural in nature, it is important to recognize that visibility of the Facility may be possible from locations that do not meet the threshold of aesthetic resources and are therefore not represented in Table 4. Additional locations of visibility have been identified along roadways adjacent to the Facility. These representative roadways⁹ may be of interest to the local residents and include Case Road, County Route 59, and Weaver Road.

6.0 VIEWSHED ANALYSIS, LINE-OF-SIGHT PROFILES, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC SIMULATION – METHODOLOGY

6.1 Viewshed Analysis

Typically, the first step in identifying the possibility for Facility visibility within the identified VSA is to complete viewshed maps¹⁰. A viewshed analysis is a computerized GIS analytical technique that illustrates the predicted visibility expected for a project and allows one to determine if and where a project can geographically be seen. The results of the viewshed analysis can be combined with other sensitive location information such as historic places, national forests, or state parks, etc. in order to understand potential Facility visibility at sensitive receptors.

⁹ All roadways are not included, select roadways were identified in order to provide representation.

¹⁰ Sometimes this has been referenced as a “zone of visual influence” or “ZVI”.

6.1.1 Methodology

In completing the necessary viewsheds, Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) point cloud data from the NYSGPO Jefferson Black River 2010, and FEMA Great Lakes Area 2014 LiDAR datasets and obtained from the New York State GIS Program website was used. LiDAR data is the best available elevation data as it contains high resolution accurate ground elevations in addition to building and tree heights that offer realistic physical visual impediments as they occur in the landscape.

Control points, at a height of eight feet eleven inches (representing the panel height), were placed in a 200-foot grid pattern throughout the area where the panels are being proposed. For each of the specified control points, GIS software (ESRI Spatial and 3D Analyst) identified where there would be an unobstructed line of site, or view, between that point and an observer at 6 feet in height. This process was run twice, once for topography only, and once to include vegetation and structures; all of which are contained in the LiDAR dataset. The final resulting output identified those areas from which viewers would potentially see all or some part of the proposed solar panels.

1. Two viewshed analyses were completed in order to account for predicted visibility of the solar panels within the VSA including:
 - Screened Viewshed: This is the primary visibility analysis performed for this VIA, as it incorporates screening caused by topography, vegetation, and the buildings. The results provide the reader of this VIA with the most reasonable and realistic depiction of Facility visibility.
 - Topography-Only Viewshed: As part of the viewshed process, a topography-only (also known as “bare earth”) viewshed was completed. This analysis is not recognized as being a realistic interpretation of the existing landscape and potential Facility visibility, as it does not take into account structures and vegetation. Despite this limitation, it can be a useful tool in identifying how much of the Facility is screened solely by terrain. In addition, it should be recognized that even during leaf-off conditions, screening will still occur from evergreen and deciduous trees (sight lines to objects may be fully or partially screened). This is not to ignore that there may be visibility through bare-branched trees; specifically, when in close proximity to the Facility and there is sparsely located vegetation between the two.
2. One additional viewshed analysis was completed for the collection substation.
 - Collection Substation: A screened viewshed was produced using the same methodology as that of the solar panels. This analysis accounted for the tallest components of the substation including: a 63-foot one inch interconnection takeoff (together with lightning masts mounted to the top of the structure), one 45-foot-tall lightening mast, and a three pole 45-foot-tall dead-end structure that is located on the north side of the existing

transmission line. It is expected that these taller elements are suitable in representing the shorter components contained in the substation.

6.1.2 Assumptions and Limitations of the Viewshed Analysis

The viewshed analysis identifies cells that contain elevation information and computes the differences along the terrain surface between an observer and a control point (e.g., a solar panel). Therefore, certain factors in the interpretation of results need to be considered:

1. The analysis, because of its computerized aspect, assumes that the observer has perfect vision at all distances. Therefore, it is important to be cognizant of the fact that there may be limitations of human vision at greater distances; atmospheric/meteorological conditions, such as haze or other inclement weather conditions, may impair visibility. Additionally, an object will appear smaller and less detailed with increased distance, thus having less visual impact in most instances.
2. Because an area, or specific point, may be identified as having visibility, it is important to understand that the entire Facility will not be seen. To assist the reader in understanding this, the viewshed map was completed using a color gradient - the yellow colored areas represents more visibility, while the purple color represents less visibility.
3. The viewshed map does not illustrate how much of each panel is visible (panel top versus the entire panel). For example, visibility may only be a result of glimpsing a portion of the Facility over treetops or between gaps of trees.
4. A viewer would not see the panels if standing amongst trees in forested areas as the tree canopy would preclude outward-looking views.

6.2 Line-of-Sight Profiles

Line-of-Sight (LOS) profiles were completed for the collection substation and the Chaumont Historic District. These profiles can provide the viewer with information that assists in examining the reasons why Facility components may have impeded views or no views. The underlying topography of a sight line, in addition to vegetative obstructions can be produced, as well as an estimated amount of visibility of an object if it is visible.

Elevation data obtained for the Facility was prepared by Thew Associates PLLC, based on an instrument survey, and supplemented with publicly available LiDAR/Digital Elevation Models from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Autodesk Civil 3D 2018 was used to produce the linear elevation profiles sampled across select sight lines for bare earth topography and for vegetation. Section 9.2.2 provides a discussion of results and Attachment 5 contains the profiles.

6.3 Photographic Simulations

Site visits were made to obtain photos during leaf-on and leaf-off conditions on September 18, 2020, March 19, 2021, and May 24, 2021. Except for one location, the photos selected for simulations were collected during leaf-off conditions to depict worst-case scenario. In capturing these images, the photographer attempted to provide the most unobstructed view possible in areas where the screened viewshed map identified potential visibility. A digital SLR full frame Canon EOS 5D Mark II with a 50mm lens setting was used in undertaking this effort.

6.3.1 Simulation Methodology

To create the photographic simulations of the Facility, TRC utilized Autodesk Civil 3D 2020 (CAD) to extract the proposed Facility layout (site plan and grading) that was prepared by TRC Engineering, the design engineers for the Facility. This data was interfaced with Autodesk 3DS Max 2020 (MAX) visualization software to construct a three-dimensional (3D) model of the proposed Facility at the precise, coordinate (x, y, z) location at which the Facility is physically proposed.

For the purposes of this VIA, the proposed panels were built as bifacial single-portrait trackers with a height of eight feet-eleven inches (8.9 feet) above ground surface with the axis oriented east-west.

To appropriately position the Facility on terrain or the ground surface, a 3D topographic surface was generated in GIS from publicly available LiDAR data, noted in Section 6.1.1, and a final 3D surface was compiled to incorporate proposed grading. Facility components were then assigned to the ground surface in MAX with elevational attributes, respectively.

The 3D model was further developed to position a 3D camera at coordinates of each simulated viewpoint location, extracted from GPS data recorded during the site visit. A photograph is then overlaid into the 3D camera's perspective and a 3D environment is constructed from existing conditions using LiDAR data. Each 3D camera is then adjusted to match the identical settings of the DSLR camera used during the field effort, along with minor adjustments to the camera's target and roll, which results in the 3D environment mirroring the photograph's environment. At this point, the recorded date and time of the photograph is entered into a physical daylight system, which calculates and renders a CGI (Computer-Generated Image) with accurate placement of shadows, materials and highlights casted from the facility of true lighting conditions seen in the photograph.

The CGI is superimposed within the photograph using Adobe Photoshop. Any final editing is completed to demonstrate any proposed actions, such as removal of vegetation, in addition to the removal of Facility components that fall behind existing features (e.g., removing the proposed Facility that falls behind structures, vegetation, topography, etc.).

For the simulations that may contain mitigation, a CAD version of the proposed landscaping plan obtained directly from the TRC Landscape Architect was imported into the MAX modeling

environment where, subsequently, each proposed tree and shrub species was then translated and built into the 3D model, growth heights are assigned and placed in with the Facility along the fence line according to the landscape plan.

6.3.2 Viewpoint Selection for Photographic Simulations

Integrating the results of the resource inventory, the completed site visits, and the viewshed analysis assisted in identifying candidate locations for the completion photo simulations. In addition, the LSZs, lighting conditions, view angles, and distance zones were also considered. It is important to note that not all locations with visibility is to be simulated, rather representative locations need to be identified.

Potential visibility, as noted by the viewshed results in Figures 2 and 3 of Attachment 2, guided the candidate locations for simulations viewpoints¹¹. The screened viewshed shows that the most prominent visibility of the Facility is within the Foreground distance zone, with some minor predicted visibility in the Middleground. As visibility is predominantly within close proximity to the Facility, the majority of the representative locations are found along local roadways (e.g., Morris Tract, Weaver and Case Roads), as well as NYS Route 12E and the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field.

As previously identified, TRC reached out to various agencies in order to provide an opportunity to suggest additional and reasonable candidate locations for the completion of photographic simulations. Based on this effort, a series of vantage points were identified for consideration. As a result of all the available data and correspondence with agencies, a total of 12 viewpoint locations were chosen for the development of simulations.

Correspondence is included in Attachment 6.

7.0 ADDITIONAL APPLICABLE VISUAL CONCEPTS TO CONSIDER: VIEWER CHARACTERISTICS

Visual sensitivity is dependent upon user or viewer attitudes, the amount of use, and the types of activities in which people are engaged when viewing an object. Overall, a higher degree of visual sensitivity is correlated with areas where people live, and with people who are engaged in certain outdoor recreational activities or participating in scenic driving. Conversely, areas of industrial or commercial use are considered to have low to moderate visual sensitivity because the activities conducted are not significantly affected by the quality of the environment.

The following concepts are applied when evaluating the visual landscape and assessing the importance of a viewpoint location if it falls in an area of visibility.

¹¹ Only those that are publicly accessible are to be considered.

Viewer group – The type of viewers will vary within the VSA and will view the landscape differently. Viewer groups include:

- *Local Constituency*: People living in the local area and/or surrounding communities who interpret the significance of where they live and interact with others. These people may include local residents, workers, travelers, and members of groups to which the local area is important in different ways. These individuals, apart from local travelers, may have a longer duration of views.
- *Commuter Constituency*: People who use or are generally restricted to travel corridors (i.e., NYS Route 12E) that are destination oriented, or traveling through the VSA. These people generally have transient, short duration views.
- *Visitor or Recreational Constituency*: Individuals who visit the area to experience its natural appearance, cultural landscape qualities, or recreational opportunities. Visitors may be of local, regional, or national origin. Duration of views may be contingent on the activity.

Context of viewer – The viewer group and associated viewer sensitivity are distinguished among viewers in residential, recreational/open space, tourist, commercial establishments, and workplace areas, with the first two having relative high sensitivity.

Number of viewers – The number of viewers is established by the amount of people estimated to be exposed to the view. In comparing viewing locations to each other, one can consider if the area is a high public use area or if it is a location that is less frequently visited or more inaccessible where the public is not expected to be present (such as marshes or swamps).

Duration of view – Duration of view is the amount of time a viewer would actually be looking at a particular site. Use areas are locations that receive concentrated public-use viewing with views of long duration such as residential back yards. Recreational long duration views include picnic areas, favorite fishing spots, campsites, or day use in smaller local parks. Comparatively, automobile drivers and snowmobilers will likely encounter a shorter, more rapid transient experience as a person transitions from one linear segment to the next but will encounter more visually varied experiences.

Viewer activities – Activities can either encourage a viewer to observe the surrounding area more closely (hiking) or discourage close observation (commuting in traffic).

Atmospheric conditions – Air pollution, natural haze and precipitation all affect visibility and should be considered. In addition, light conditions should be considered as the direction and amount of light can affect intensity, reflection, shadow, form, and texture.

Assessing contrast – In assessing the contrast of the Facility within the context of the existing landscape, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) describes such compatibility in terms of form,

line, color, texture, and size or scale. It should be noted that all of these are affected by such things as atmospheric conditions and distance. For example, the color of a proposed project may appear similar to its surroundings during hazy weather conditions, or the size of a project may not appear as dominant within the landscape the further away a viewer may be positioned.

- **Form** – Contrasts result when a proposed project appears to change or interrupt the shape and mass of existing landforms. The magnitude of change is dependent on how dissimilar the introduced forms are to those already seen within the landscape.
- **Line** – Contrasts result from changes in the existing edge types (e.g., hilltop), its interruption, or the introduction of new lines. An undeveloped area at a distance may be mostly horizontal lines comprised of distant ridges or forest treetops as well as forest and field interfaces.
- **Color** – Contrasts result when new colors are introduced into the landscape that are dissimilar to those that are existing (e.g., green colors of vegetation, or blue colors of the sky).
- **Texture** – Contrasts are usually the result of comparing the differences in the material, density, and patterns of new elements with its surrounding. Texture and the level of discernible detail decreases with distance. Objects at distance may appear as one homogenous texture or shape.
- **Size or Scale** – Contrast is directly related to its size and scale as compared to the surroundings in which it is located. A project may appear dominate or subordinate within a landscape.

8.0 VISUAL IMPACT RATING

TRC has developed a visual impact rating form for use in comparing Facility photo simulations as required by Section 94-c. This form is a simplified version of various federal agency visual impact rating systems. It includes concepts and applications sourced from:

- U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Handbook H-8431: Visual Contrast Rating, January 1986 (USDOI, 1986).
- Visual Resources Assessment Procedure for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, March 1988 (Smardon, et al., 1988).
- National Park Service Visual Resources Inventory View Importance Rating Guide, 2016 (NPS, 2016c).
- USDA Forest Service, Landscape Aesthetics: A Handbook for Scenery Management. USDA Forest Service Agriculture Handbook No. 701, 1995 (USDA, 1995).

Depending on the Facility location, a variety of VIA guidance and established procedures exist, as noted above; these apply to management of federal lands that fall under a specific agency such as the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. These documents vary in regard to agency specific rating systems or procedures, and often begin with the evaluation of existing conditions such as scenic quality or presence of sensitive resource locations.

TRC has developed this form for efficient and streamlined use with projects that undergo state environmental permitting processes. This methodology has been previously approved and accepted for numerous projects being reviewed through the New York State Article 10 of the Public Service Law for numerous Article 10 projects of similar size. As a basis of the prescribed methodology, it is assumed that visual resource inventories, development of LSZs, viewshed analyses, and photo simulations have already been performed for the Facility according to regulatory requirements or other visual policy. This form was developed to be used as a numerical rating system for selected viewpoint locations subjected to the completion of photo simulations and is meant to accompany the Facility VIA.

For evaluating visual change, there are three parts to the form. Part 1 is the *Visual Contrast Rating*, which compares the Facility's contrasts against compositional visual elements of within the existing view from a selected vantagepoint. This includes contrasts against the existing and natural environment such as vegetation, water, sky, landform, or structures. The higher the rating total the higher the contrast. Part 2 is the *Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating*. This section incorporates the concepts in Section 8.0. It rates the sensitivity of the viewpoint location which inherently considers the importance of the location (if it falls within a visual resource area), viewer groups, duration of view, if it is a high use area, or if there is the presence of water. The higher the rating total, the more sensitive the viewpoint is. Part 3 does not rate change but is an overall *General Scenic Quality of the View* which rates the view of existing conditions only, without the influence of the Facility.

Please refer to Attachment 7 for more comprehensive guidelines on how the contrast ratings were assessed and applied within each category.

The rating scale is as follows:

Rating Scale	
0	None
0.5	
1	Weak
1.5	
2	Moderate
2.5	
3	Strong

Degree of Contrast Criteria

None	The element contrast is not visible or perceived.
Weak	The element contrast can be seen but does not attract attention.
Moderate	The element contrast begins to attract attention and begins to dominate the characteristic landscape.
Strong	The element contrast demands attention, will not be overlooked, and is dominant in the landscape.

9.0 VISUAL IMPACT ANALYSIS RESULTS

9.1 Viewshed Results and Discussion

A series of viewshed maps were completed for the solar panels and the collection station. These may be seen in Attachment 2 and are further discussed below.

9.1.1 Viewshed Summary

Screened Viewshed – Solar Panels

The viewshed map and associated analysis illustrates potential screening caused by the existing topography, vegetation, and structures (e.g., residential and commercial) found within the VSA. It shows that Facility visibility is expected to be limited, with most occurring within the Foreground distance zone. To quantify the amount of land with visibility, the analysis identified that only 14.05% of the land will have a possibility of either a full or partial view of the Facility. Of this amount, 30.1% of visibility occurs on properties owned by participating landowners.

As noted in Table 5, and Figures 2 and 3 in Attachment 2, most of the visibility occurs within one-half mile, or the Foreground, of the Facility. This is likely occurring due to the open agricultural land surrounding the Facility, resulting in visibility along adjacent roadways (Case Road, Weaver Road, Morris Tract Road, NYS Route 12E, etc.) and properties (residential or other).

Many outward views beyond the Foreground distance zone are screened by forested areas (including hedgerows) and natural changes in topography. This is evident as the possibility for visibility abruptly drops in the Middleground distance zone where it is anticipated that 2.51% of the land will have views of the Facility – this equates to approximately 0.8 square miles of the VSA. The majority of visibility can be expected within agricultural fields or other types of open land, with a minimal amount seen along roadways such as NYS Route 12E, Guffin Bay Estate Road, Walrath Road, Ransom Road, and Weaver Road.

The Facility has been sited outside the Village of Chaumont, which contains a higher concentration of aesthetic resources and potential viewers, but the low profile of the panels combined with the existing vegetation, structures and landform prevents visibility.

Table 5. Percent Visibility (Screened) of Panels within Each Distance Zone

Distance Zone	Total Area Comprising Distance Zone Square Miles	Visibility Within Distance Zone Square Miles	Percent of Square Miles With Visibility in Each Distance Zone	Percent of Visibility Within the Two Mile VSA
Foreground (0-0.5 Miles)	7.63	3.77	49.41%	11.54%
Middleground (0.5-2.0 Miles)	25.03	0.82	3.28%	2.51%
Total	32.66	4.59	N/A	14.05%

Topography Only – Solar Panels

The viewshed and associated analysis illustrates that 79.24% of the VSA (see Table 6, and Figure 4 in Attachment 2) will have visibility of some portion of the solar panels. While this should not be perceived as a realistic representation of visibility, it is still a useful tool in understanding the influence of the terrain and its screening potentials.

Despite its limitations, it does illustrate that the topography is fairly level within most of the VSA; thus, it is not varied enough to screen views. However, there are areas that are expected to be screened and these generally include: the Chaumont River corridor (including Old Town Springs Road, and portions of the Village of Chaumont and Historic District), lowlands in the vicinity of NYS Route 180, the intersection of Depaulville and Van Alstyne Roads, and within Chaumont Bay in close proximity to the shorelines.

Table 6. Percent Visibility (Topography Only) of Panels within Each Distance Zone

Distance Zone	Total Area Comprising Distance Zone Square Miles	Visibility Within Distance Zone Square Miles	Percent of Square Miles With Visibility in Each Distance Zone	Percent of Visibility Within the Two Mile VSA
Foreground (0-0.5 Miles)	7.63	7.50	98.30%	22.96%
Middleground (0.5-2.0 Miles)	25.03	18.38	73.43%	56.28%

Table 6. Percent Visibility (Topography Only) of Panels within Each Distance Zone

Distance Zone	Total Area Comprising Distance Zone Square Miles	Visibility Within Distance Zone Square Miles	Percent of Square Miles With Visibility in Each Distance Zone	Percent of Visibility Within the Two Mile VSA
Total	32.66	25.88	N/A	79.24%

9.1.2 Visibility of the Solar Panels within the Identified Landscape Similarity Zones

The extent of each Landscape Similarity Zone within the VSA is summarized in Table 7 and Figure 1 in Attachment 2. The Table also identifies the percentages of visibility as it occurs within each LSZ and is then further discussed below.

Table 7. Percent Visibility of Panels within Landscape Similarity Zones Within the Visual Study Area

Landscape Similarity Zone	Total LSZ Sq Miles Within the Two Mile VSA	LSZ Sq Miles of Visibility	Percent of Visibility within Each LSZ, Based on the Screened Viewshed	Percent Visibility within the Two Mile VSA
Agricultural	19.25	4.30	22.34%	13.17%
Forested	11.25	0.21	1.87%	0.64%
Village	0.26	0.004	1.35%	0.021%
Transportation Corridor	0.26	0.06	23.08%	0.19%
Water	1.64	0.01	0.67%	0.03%
Total	32.66	4.58	N/A	14.05%

Using the Table above, one can begin to distinguish, or make assumptions about which viewer types may experience visibility of the Facility. For example, those within the Village and Water LSZ's will essentially have no views of the Facility. Therefore, these individuals (residents, recreationalists, etc.) are not anticipated to be affected by the Facility. The Forested and

Transportation Corridor LSZ's will also have limited visibility within 0.64% and 0.19% of the VSA, respectively.

The highest percentage, 13.17% of the VSA, with possible visibility is within the Agricultural LSZ. Where it is anticipated that a relatively low number of viewers (residents and commuters) will be affected by or have visibility of the Facility. The overall small number of potential viewers is supported by the identified population found in Table 2¹², as well as the average daily traffic counts found Table 1. In addition, this LSZ predominantly consists of land being cultivated for crops, hay, or pasture, therefore much of this farmland is infrequently visited and not accessible to the public¹³. However, residents in this LSZ may have long term visibility if they live adjacent to the Facility. In this case, should there be sensitivity, it is anticipated that it may lessen over time due to continual exposure.

The LSZ with the highest number of potential viewers appears to be the Transportation Corridor LSZ. Although it only accounts for a small portion of the VSA (0.8%), it does accommodate upwards of 5,425 vehicles a day. This LSZ coincides with NYS Route 12E and it should be noted that users of the corridor (commuters, travelers, and recreationalists) will only have a potential of view the Facility between the Village of Chaumont and Town of Brownville municipal boundaries. In addition, there are many instances where users may not comprehend the visibility of the Facility due to road speed, orientation, and concentration of navigating the corridor.

9.1.3 Visibility of the Solar Panels on Identified Visual Resources

Scenic Resource Inventory

The screened viewshed indicates that the only resources listed in Table 4, per the guidelines, which may have visibility of the Facility include:

- NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail;
- The C5J Snowmobile Trail;
- The G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field;
- Lyme Road & Gun Club;
- Village of Chaumont;
- Morris Tract Road; and
- County Route 125.

A further description of these resources and potential visibility is found below:

¹² Only a portion of the identified population within each Town may be found within the VSA.

¹³ The land belongs to private individuals who may not access parts of their properties at all times.

NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail – The Great Lakes Seaway Trail (the Seaway Trail) coincides with NYS Route 12E and bisects the western portion of the VSA in a north-south direction. In addition, this corridor is also designated as a bikeway making it suitable for vehicular users and cyclists. The Seaway Trail is a 518-mile scenic route paralleling Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River connecting the Ohio/Pennsylvania (PA) State line (west of Erie, PA) to the U.S./Canadian border at Massena, New York. The Seaway Trail is noted as one of “America’s Byways”¹⁴ and is known for its unique landscape, scenic coastline, and its historical significance.

This corridor is located 0.15 miles from the proposed Facility Site¹⁵. It is anticipated that varying visibility¹⁶ will occur along a section of the roadway, specifically between the southern Village of Chaumont municipal boundary and just east of Moffat Road. Intermittent views at the fringe of the visibility will begin to be steadier as the traveler is perpendicular to the Facility. However, there are many factors where users may not comprehend, or experience reduced visibility of the Facility due to road speed, orientation, and concentration of navigating the corridor.

Snowmobile Trail – The C5J trail, which is part of the NYS Snowmobile Association, bisects the VSA and Facility Site. This seasonal trail connects the Village of Chaumont to the Villages of Cape Vincent and Alexandria Bay by using public/private land, short segments of roadways (NYS Route 12E and Morris Tract Road), and the existing National Grid 115kV transmission line. The trail is maintained by the Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club and may receive funds from the State in any given year.

The snowmobile trail is located adjacent to the proposed Facility Site. It is anticipated that views will be transient in nature with varying visibility occurring between Morris Tract Road and just west of Weaver Road. Intermittent views may occur at the fringe of the visibility but is likely to be more open and direct within the Facility site as the Trail runs parallel and in close proximity to the Facility. Towards the west end of the Facility, a segment of the Trail will be displaced, thus needing to be re-routed.

G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field – The Field, located in the Town of Lyme, offers limited recreational opportunities as it has one softball field. There is currently minimal obstruction (i.e., vegetation and buildings) between the user and Facility, thus resulting in open and direct views. Visibility of the Facility may be reduced, or a lack of attention given to it, as a result of participating in an event (playing and watching), as well as the time of day. Should the game be played after sunset, visibility of the field hosting the panels will be reduced. It is important to note that the field is only being used sporadically during the season of play.

¹⁴ U.S. Department of Transportation

¹⁵ Distances are measured from the closest points, regardless of visibility. Measurements are from the resource to the boundary of the Facility Site

¹⁶ Varying visibility may contain open or filtered views, or the number of visible panels could differ.

The Field is located 211 feet from the proposed Facility Site. It is anticipated visibility will occur throughout the Property. With minimal obstruction it is anticipated that there will be open and direct views to the northwest set of panels.

Lyme Rod and Gun Club – The Club, located in the Town of Lyme, offers limited opportunities for those seeking such a facility. The Club hosts weekly competitions as part of the Norther Tier Trap League during the months of April through September. While there are limited times available to use the facility, it does offer the opportunity to host events.

The Club is located 0.59 miles from the proposed Facility Site. It is anticipated that most events will occur during evening hours and facing away from the Facility. Likely the greatest chance to view the Facility is while exiting the Club parking lot. It is also anticipated that should the field east of County Route 125 (Guffins Bay Estate Road) go fallow or be used for crops, visibility of the Facility will be further reduced or screened during the growing season.

Village of Chaumont –The Village, located in the Town of Lyme, as previously identified contains the highest density of development and population. This small waterfront village offers a residential setting and a variety of year-round services.

A portion of the Village's northeast municipal boundary is located adjacent to the proposed Facility Site¹⁷. It is anticipated that individual establishments within this community could attract tourists to this region. Views of the Facility from within the Village are screened. However, there is a possibility for views, mostly discreet, to occur at the NYS Route 12E municipal boundary and along the northeast boundary which bisects Morris Tract Road. With the exception of the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field, these views appear to be either fleeting or on private property.

Morris Tract Road – Morris Tract Road runs in a northeast-southwest direction connecting the Village of Chaumont with Depauville Road, north of the Facility. Although this is a local roadway, it has been identified as having scenic value in the Village of Chaumont Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2010). Its importance is likely based on views of the agricultural fields and operations.

Views of the Facility will occur sporadically between Van Alstyne Road (vicinity of) and the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field; where visibility does occur, a fewer number of solar panels will likely be observed at a distance of approximately one-half mile (i.e., no panels are located adjacent to the road). As many of the views will likely be discreet and of short duration, there may be factors where users may not comprehend, or experience reduced visibility of the Facility due to road orientation and concentration of navigating the corridor. However, as described above there may be visibility, within a closer distance, in the area of the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field. Even in this area, for those using the road, views are likely to be short and affected by the factors identified above.

¹⁷ Although it borders the Facility Site, the Village downtown core is not.

County Route 125 – CR 125 is a loop road on Point Salubrius, originating and terminating at NYS Route 12E, west of the Facility. Although this is a local roadway, it has been identified as having scenic value in the Town of Lyme Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2010). Its importance is likely based on views of the agricultural fields and Bay.

Views are available in the vicinity of the Lyme Rod and Gun Club. It is anticipated that visibility of the Facility it will be limited and minimal; should the field east of the roadway go fallow or be used for crops, visibility of the Facility will be further reduced or screened during the growing season.

Local Resources

Although not part of the Scenic Resource Inventory, it is important to recognize that visibility of the Facility may be possible from locations that do not meet the tolerance of an aesthetic (or scenic) resource. Given the rural nature of the VSA, additional locations of visibility have been identified along roadways adjacent to the Facility. These representative locations may be of interest to the local residents as they may be used for travel, or they may live in a roadside setting along these specific roads. Those that have been identified include:

- Weaver Road;
- County Route 59; and
- Case Road.

The screened viewshed identifies visibility along these roadways, County Route 59 has limited opportunities to view the Facility, however Case Road and Weaver Road will have an opportunity for an increasing amount of Facility visibility. The amount of visibility seen along Case and Weaver Roads is likely due to its relatively close proximity to the Facility, combined with open land with an unobstructed view (i.e., lack of screening by vegetation [roadside or other]). Weaver Road, north of Case Road, is the only segment (approximately 1,200 feet) of roadway with panels proposed on both sides.

Some of the views experienced along these roadways may be intermittent and temporary in nature (as seen by travelers), while others may result in views that are long in duration (as seen by landowners with views of the Facility). While the residents may be exposed to the Facility for longer periods of time, it is anticipated that sensitivity of the Facility will diminish over time due to continued exposure. In addition, it should also be noted that the panels closer to a viewer will likely limit, or screen, those panels further in a distance, thus reducing the number of overall panels which are visible.

9.1.4 Viewshed Results for Collection Substation

A viewshed map for the tallest components of the substation and the interconnect was completed and is included as Attachment 2 Figure 4. This analysis was based on five points: a 63-foot one inch interconnection takeoff (together with lightning masts mounted to the top of the structure), one 45-foot-tall lightening mast, and a three pole 45-foot-tall dead-end structure that is located on

the north side of the existing transmission line. The results of the screened analysis shows that most visibility will occur within the Foreground distance zone, along portions of the snowmobile trail (the existing transmission corridor), within the Facility Site that is already occupied by the panels, and within privately owned fields. Upon review of the viewshed map, it can be seen that these structures are visible in a similar geographic area as to the panels, yet to a lesser extent. When visible, it will also likely be seen in context to the existing transmission structures. Most views of these structures occur to the east and south of the Facility; there will be visibility along Case Road, Weaver Road, and even less visibility along roadways such as Morris Tract Road, County Route 125, and NYS Route 12E. As noted in Table 8, the limited visibility seen within the Foreground distance zone is further reduced in the Middleground distance zone, where it is anticipated that these structures will only be visible within 0.44 square miles, or 1.76% of this Zone.

Table 8. Percent Visibility (Screened) of the Substation within Each Distance Zones

Distance Zone	Total Area Comprising Distance Zone Square Miles	Visibility Within Distance Zone Square Miles	Percent of Visibility Within Distance Zone	Percent of Visibility Within the Two Mile VSA
Foreground (0-0.5 Miles)	7.63	1.54	20.18%	4.72%
Middleground (0.5-2.0 Miles)	25.03	0.44	1.76%	1.35%
Total	32.66	1.98	N/A	6.07%

9.2 Photographic Simulation and LOS Results and Discussion

The discussion of predicted visibility in Section 9.1 focuses on relative quantities of visibility (how much is seen and where) in an effort to understand and objectively assess the amount of visual change in the landscape. To further illustrate potential Facility visibility, a series of simulations and line-of-sight profiles were completed.

Photographic Simulations

Simulations of the Facility from representative vantage points have been developed to provide representative or typical views of the proposed Facility. These simulation locations were chosen based on a variety of factors including: predicted visibility based on the viewshed mapping, providing an adequate representation of the Facility, and accommodating requests from the Town of Lyme and ORES. Due to a lack of identified visibility outside of the immediate surroundings, many of the chosen locations are representative of what the community may experience from

local roadways. Where possible, attention to residents and residential groupings with expected views located near the Facility was given priority.

To illustrate the anticipated change within the landscape because of the Facility, simulations were prepared from twelve selected viewpoints, as identified in Table 9. The simulations are further discussed below.

Table 9. Photographic Simulation Locations

Viewpoint ID	Location	Municipality	Approximate Distance to Facility	Landscape Similarity Zone	Camera Orientation
6	Morris Tract Road	Lyme	0.66 miles	Agricultural	South-southeast
11	Case Road	Lyme	200 feet	Agricultural	North-northeast
13	Case Road	Lyme	366 feet	Agricultural	West
16	Case Road	Lyme	293 feet	Agricultural	Northeast
29	NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail	Lyme, Chaumont	983 feet	Transportation Corridor	Northeast
30	NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail	Lyme	0.19 miles	Transportation Corridor	North-northeast
37	Weaver Road	Brownville	596 feet	Agricultural	East-southeast
40	Morris Tract Road	Lyme	0.36 miles	Agricultural	Southwest
42	County Route 125	Lyme	0.69 miles	Agricultural	East-northeast
44	County Route 59	Brownville	1.37 miles	Agricultural	Northwest
45	NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail	Lyme	0.65 miles	Transportation Corridor	Northwest
49	G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field	Lyme	342 feet	Agricultural	Southeast

Photographic Simulation Discussion

The following section discusses the anticipated visibility of the Facility from various representative viewpoints from around the VSA, mostly within close proximity to the Facility and within the Agricultural LSZ, unless otherwise identified. Simulations are presented as sets of Existing and Proposed Conditions and can be found in Attachment 5. Proposed mitigation vegetation is shown at 10-years' worth of growth and illustrated in the simulations where the landscaping is proposed. All simulations represent the panels in their upright position to depict a worse-case scenario, it should be recognized that they may be at different heights throughout the day as it tracks the sun (e.g., panels may be in a horizontal position at mid-day).

9.2.1.1 Viewpoint 6: Morris Tract Road

This viewpoint located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 0.66 miles north of the Facility, is adjacent to a residential dwelling. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This view contains a series of agricultural/open fields separated by hedgerows. Vegetation (trees and scrub/shrub) located in the immediate foreground and in the middle of the image consist of deciduous species, with a grouping of evergreens. Vegetation in the distance is deciduous with no visible evergreens. Colors are dominated by natural browns and blue, seen in the vegetation and fields, and sky, respectively. The fields, hedgerows, and distant vegetation form individual horizontal lines; singular trees (or small groupings) within the hedgerows and the H-frame structures from the National Grid Thousand Island – Coffeen Street #4 Lyme Tap 115 kV transmission line provide vertical elements throughout the image.

With the Facility in place, visibility of the panels and modifications to the existing tree line are noticeable but are not a prominent change. Assisting in its lack of visibility is the Facility's low-profile which does not allow the screening of distant landscape or cresting of the horizon. The panels tend to blend into the background, even with their darker appearance. As the Facility is not highly noticeable, it does little to change the character of the landscape. The panels may be further screened from the viewer due to leaf-on conditions of the hedgerows that are visible between the viewer and Facility.

9.2.1.2 Viewpoint 11: Case Road

This viewpoint located in the Town of Lyme, is approximately 200 feet south of the Facility, adjacent to a cluster of residential dwellings. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This view contains a manicured lawn and gravel driveway in the immediate foreground, followed by agricultural/open fields. Vegetation in the distance is deciduous with few visible evergreens. Case Road and the driveway introduce gray asphalt pavement and gravel, respectively; this is seen against the natural gray and brown colors of the field and trees; and blue sky. The fields, driveway, and distant vegetation form individual horizontal lines; the existing H-frame transmission structures and the road marker provide vertical elements.

With the Facility in place, the open land is now occupied by solar panels surrounded by galvanized fencing. The placement of the Facility mimics the existing horizontal line that was previously seen in the field, yet it creates a series of vertical and angular lines due to the proposed fencing and panels. The rural character of the view has been altered as the clearly man-made facility introduces new materials, textures, and colors to the existing field character. The Facility is consistent in scale with the surrounding landscape due to its low-profile, which does not extend above the roadside marker and limits screening of the background forested land and transmission line. Although the southern edge of the Facility is gray in appearance, similar to that of the roadway and driveway, its remaining darker appearance caused by shading makes it appear as a dominant feature in view.

In addition to the panels and fencing, portions of the substation and interconnect are visible in the distance. While the top portions of the shorter components are visible, the take-off and the terminal dead-end structures are most noticeable. These introduce new vertical elements within the view that appear against the forested land in the background. While the lighter color of these structures make them more noticeable, they are a small portion of the overall Facility, and are similar in appearance and style to the existing transmission structures.

Mitigation plantings are planned along the property line adjacent to a small grouping of residential dwellings. As the plantings mature, their screening value will increase. Although the plantings will screen the Facility there will be views where landscaping is lacking adjacent to Case Road. The vegetation will also add new natural colors and textures softening the horizontal expanse of the Facility. The proposed mitigation seen by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration, while longer durations will be experienced by residents.

9.2.1.3 Viewpoint 13: Case Road

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 366 feet east of the Facility and is adjacent to a residential dwelling. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This image contains a portion of a manicured lawn, a dirt access road, and an unmanaged land buffer in the immediate foreground, followed by agricultural/open fields. Vegetation in the distance is deciduous with few visible evergreens likely within the mass of trees. Colors within the view are dominated by natural browns and blues. The field edges, utility lines, and a portion of the distant vegetation form individual horizontal lines; the utility pole, the immediate foreground trees and the distant communications tower provide vertical elements within the landscape.

With the Facility in place, the open land is now occupied by solar panels and fencing that conforms to the underlying contours. The Facility screens distant views from the observer, crests the horizon, and introduces a series of new vertical and angled lines. Although the Facility is set back from the road edge, the rural character of the view has been altered as the darker (somewhat similar to the color of the sky), clearly man-made facility is visible and introduces different materials, textures, and colors to the existing field character. With the facility extending length wise it appears as a prominent or co-dominant element within view; however, this is lessened due to its low-profile being seen with the large trees visible within the image.

Mitigation plantings are planned along the proposed fencing, providing screening from the roadway and area residents. As the plantings mature, their screening value will increase, however there will be views of the Facility where they are lacking. The vegetation will also add new natural colors and textures as the Facility is softened and the horizontal expanse of the Facility appears to be minimized. Views of the mitigation by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration, while longer durations will be experienced by residents.

9.2.1.4 Viewpoint 16: Case Road

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, is approximately 293 feet southwest of the Facility and is adjacent to a farm and garden center. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This image contains an agricultural/open field bordered by mostly deciduous vegetation in the distance. Colors consist of natural browns and greens of the field and trees, and blues seen within the sky. The fields and distant vegetation form individual horizontal lines; the existing H-frame transmission structures and individual trees provide vertical elements (some more noticeable than others).

With the Facility in place, the open land is now occupied by solar panels surrounded by fencing. The placement of the Facility mimics the existing horizontal line that was previously seen in the field yet creates a series of vertical lines due to the proposed fencing and panels. Although the Facility is set back from the road edge allowing the retention of an increased amount of open land, the rural character of the view has been altered. This darker, clearly man-made facility introduces different materials, textures, and colors into the existing field character. As the Facility extends length wise and deep into the field, it appears as a prominent, or co-dominant, element within view; however, due to its low-profile it does not extend above the tree line leaving the existing transmission towers and vegetation visible.

Mitigation plantings will provide screening of the Facility; as the plantings mature, their screening value will increase. The plantings will add interest to the view as shown on the simulation. The proposed vegetation will add new natural colors and textures as the panels and fencing will soften, and the expanse of the Facility appears to be lessened. Views of the mitigation by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration, while longer durations will be experienced by residents.

9.2.1.5 Viewpoint 29: NYS Route 12E

This viewpoint located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 983 feet west of the Facility, is adjacent to the Village of Chaumont municipal boundary. Although those who use this highway are likely to be concentrating on the road conditions and focusing down road, there are views to the surrounding landscape. This image illustrates a representative view, within the Transportation Corridor LSZ, that contains an open field in the immediate foreground with a mixture of scrub/shrub material visible against a backdrop of trees that screens distant views. The lower quarter of the image introduces gray asphalt pavement against the dominant natural gray and brown colors of the field and trees; the blues seen in the sky are co-dominant. The roadway, field, scrub/shrub material and trees all form individual horizontal lines bisecting the of the image; vertical elements include wooden fence posts and individual trees seen throughout. The vegetation within view generally consists of deciduous species, but scattered evergreens are likely.

With the Facility in place, it is largely screened by the existing dense scrub/shrub hedgerow that is seen bordering the foreground field. It may be possible to see the Facility through thinning gaps of the vegetation resulting from plant die-back, which may occur over time, as well as the tops of

the panels just above the vegetation due to specific view position/orientation. The most notable change within the landscape is that of the required tree removal. Although a horizontal tree line still exists, it is lower on the horizon. Overall, the Facility does little to change the character of the landscape.

There is minor visibility of the substation and interconnect. A portion of the take-off structure is visible in the distance, and although faint in appearance, the light color of the structure may be seen against the forested land in the background. This occupies a very small portion of the overall Facility and scene and, are similar in appearance and style to the existing transmission structures.

Although it is not anticipated that there will be significant visibility, in part due to the existing hedgerow and distance between the observer and Facility, mitigation plantings are being proposed behind portions of the scrub/shrub hedgerow. The proposed vegetation will be instrumental in screening the Facility, should the existing hedgerow be compromised, or additional views are evident once the Facility is in place. The plantings as shown in the mitigation simulation are seen as vertical elements against the deciduous dominated tree stand. As a result, the vegetation will add new natural colors and textures within the view. Views of the mitigation seen by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration.

9.2.1.6 Viewpoint 30: NYS Route 12E

This viewpoint located in the Town of Lyme is approximately 0.19 miles south of the Facility. Although those who use this highway are likely to be concentrating on the road conditions and focusing down road, there are views to the surrounding landscape. This representative view, within the Transportation Corridor LSZ, contains agricultural/open fields separated by a hedgerow. Vegetation in the foreground and in the distance are deciduous with little evergreens visible. With the exception of the gray asphalt pavement, colors in view are dominated by natural browns and blues. The roads edge, fields and distant vegetation all form individual horizontal lines; distinct vertical elements appear to be lacking.

With the Facility in place, it is mostly screened by the existing dense scrub/shrub hedgerow that is seen bordering the foreground field. The Facility will be visible where the scrub/shrub falls below the height of the proposed panels as witnessed on the left side of the image. Additional visibility may be possible through thinning gaps of the vegetation that result from plant die-back, which could occur over time. Although a new horizontal line may be introduced into the landscape, the Facility does little to change the character of the landscape.

In addition to the panels and fencing, portions of the substation and interconnect are visible in the distance. While the top portions of some components are visible, the terminal dead-end structure is most noticeable (the take-off structure is located behind an existing tree, limiting visibility). Although faint in appearance, the lighter color of the structures may be seen against the forested land in the background. This occupies a very small portion of the overall Facility and are similar in appearance and style to the existing transmission structures.

Although it is not anticipated that there will be significant visibility, in part due to the existing scrub/shrub hedgerow and distance between the observer and Facility, mitigation plantings are being proposed. The proposed vegetation will be instrumental in screening the Facility, should the existing hedgerow be compromised, or additional views are evident once the Facility is in place. Those panels that are visible above the scrub/shrub will begin to disappear as the screening value of the plantings are noticed. Within 10 years, the plantings screen the majority of the Facility in view, this includes the substation, however the dead-end structure and conductors will remain visible. The proposed vertical evergreens will be seen against the deciduous dominated tree stand in the background, as a result, they will add new natural colors and textures within the landscape. Views of the mitigation plantings seen by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration.

9.2.1.7 Viewpoint 37: Weaver Road

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Brownville, approximately 596 feet west of the Facility, adjacent to a residential dwelling. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This view contains a manicured lawn, a play structure and shed within the immediate foreground, followed by agricultural/open fields. There are noticeable hedgerows and distant vegetation which is deciduous with few visible evergreens. In addition, there is a mound of tires intermixed with the hedgerow that is clearly visible. Colors are dominated by a light-colored blue sky, and the natural browns seen within in the fields. The field edges, and distant horizon form horizontal lines; individual trees and structures within the foreground provide vertical elements within the landscape.

With the Facility in place, the open land is now occupied by solar panels surrounded by fencing. The placement of the Facility mimics the existing horizontal line that was previously seen; new vertical lines due to the proposed fencing and panels are present, but faint in appearance. Although the Facility is set back allowing the retention of an increased amount of open land, the rural character has been altered as the darker, clearly man-made facility is visible rising above the distant tree line introducing different materials, textures, and colors. It is also observed that the Facility does crest a portion of the horizon. The color of the Facility, while in contrast with the sky, does appear to be similar to that of the hedgerows, tire mound, and other vegetation (individual or grouping) seen on site. The Facility does not appear as a highly dominating element within this view; it is consistent in scale with the visible structures or vegetation being taller than the Facility's low-profile.

9.2.1.8 Viewpoint 40: Morris Tract Road

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 0.36 miles northeast of the Facility, adjacent to a farm operation and residential dwelling. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This view contains an open field bordered by a deciduous tree line. The field, transmission line conductors, and the tree line provide defined individual horizontal lines; the existing H-frame transmission structure and communication tower

provide vertical elements. Colors within the view are dominated by natural browns and blues, with the introduction of a gray roadway bisecting the lower right corner of the image.

With the Facility in place, a portion of the panels and modifications to the existing tree line are noticeable. The panels are seen toward the center of the view where they are lighter in color (similar to that of the sky's horizon), when compared to the foreground field and distant tree line. Assisting in its lack of visibility is the Facility's position behind vegetation, and its low-profile that does not allow for the screening of the distant landscape or cresting of the horizon. While the Facility does introduce a horizontal line, it does imitate that of the field edges. The rural character of the view has been altered as the clearly man-made facility is visible and introduces different materials, textures, and colors, however these changes do not significantly alter the landscape setting. The Facility is also seen in the same view of the existing transmission corridor and communications tower. It should be noted that the panels may be further screened from view due to leaf-on conditions or further growth of the hedgerows that are visible between the observer and Facility.

Although mitigation plantings have not been planned for this view, those located in other areas will be visible behind the Facility. The proposed evergreen trees are noticeable within the mitigation simulation and although no screening occurs, the green color of the vegetation may be noticeable. Should the plantings be observed, they will likely be seen as a part of the existing vegetation.

9.2.1.9 Viewpoint 42: County Route 125

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 0.69 miles southwest of the Facility and is in close proximity to the Lyme Rod and Gun Club. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. This view contains an area of scrub/shrub that separates the edge of the roadway and an agricultural field. Trees are mostly seen as a mass, with a few noticeable individuals, in the distance, and consist of deciduous vegetation with a grouping of evergreens. Colors are dominated by a light-colored blue sky and the browns seen within in the fields; scattered light-colored structures are at the far edge of the field. The distant vegetation and field form individual horizontal lines; vertical elements are not strongly represented. Dwellings and accessory structures seen in the distance tend merge into the surrounding landscape.

With the Facility in place, the simulation shows that it will be difficult to distinguish the panels and modifications to the existing tree line. Located in the center of the view, a small portion of the panels are seen just above the cultivated field. Assisting in its lack of visibility is the distance between the observer and the Facility, and its low-profile. The panels also take on a grayish hue, consistent with the landscape seen at that distance. The minor appearance of the Facility makes it one small element within the overall landscape as it blends in with the visible development. As the Facility is not highly noticeable, it does little to change the rural character. The panels will not be visible from this vantage point once the crop within the agricultural field is established and has an opportunity to grow.

Similarly, to the panels and fencing, portions of the substation are just as indistinguishable. The top portions of the shorter components, as well as the terminal dead-end and take-off structures may be seen within this view. Visibility is faint in appearance, yet the lighter color of the structures may be seen against the forested land in the background. This facility sits behind scrubby roadside vegetation, but if visible will occupy a very small portion of the overall Facility and scene, and will be similar in appearance and style to the existing transmission structures. It is anticipated that during leaf-on and crop growing seasons the substation will not be visible.

Although it is not anticipated that there will be significant visibility of the Facility, mitigation plantings are being proposed in association with NYS Route 12E and may be visible from this vantage point. As they mature, the plantings will screen the majority of the Facility in view, this includes the substation, however the take-off and dead-end structures and conductors may still be visible. The proposed evergreens will blend into the existing landscape and will be seen against a deciduous dominated tree stand in the background. The evergreen vegetation which will add a new natural color and texture within the view, if noticeable. Views of the mitigation for observers in this area will likely be intermittent and of short duration.

9.2.1.10 Viewpoint 44: County Route 59

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 1.37 miles southeast of the Facility, adjacent to a cluster of residential dwellings. Those who typically use this roadway are likely to be residents, workers, and local commuters. The view from in front of a residential dwelling contains a manicured lawn and hedgerow in the immediate foreground, an agricultural/open field in the middle, and a distant landform and vegetation; vegetation within this view consists of deciduous species. Colors are dominated by natural browns and sky blues. The field, distant vegetation, and the roofline of the dwelling in the immediate foreground form individual horizontal lines; with the exception of the foreground dwelling, vertical elements are not strongly represented. Dwellings and accessory structures seen in the distance tend merge into the surrounding landscape.

With the Facility in place, the simulation shows that it will be difficult to distinguish the panels and modifications to the existing tree line. Located just to the right of the foreground structure, a small portion of the panels are faintly seen just below the background ridgeline. Under these conditions, the panels take on a grayish hue, blending into the adjacent colors. The Facility appears as a minor element and is seen as one small element within the overall landscape blending in with the visible development. As the Facility is not highly noticeable, it does little to change the character of the landscape.

Although it is not anticipated that there will be significant visibility of the Facility, mitigation plantings are proposed in association with NYS Route 12E and may be visible from this area. As the plantings mature they will screen portions of the Facility in view, and may be seen against the deciduous dominated tree stand in the background. Although the evergreen vegetation appears to blend into the existing landscape, they will add a new natural color and texture within the view (if noticeable). Views of the mitigation plantings, as seen by observers in this area will likely be

intermittent and of short duration, with views from resident's long term. It is anticipated that long term exposure will result in the plantings viewed as part of the existing forested land.

9.2.1.11 Viewpoint 45: NYS Route 12E

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 0.65 miles southeast of the Facility. Although those who use this highway are likely to be concentrating on the road conditions and focusing down road, there are views to the surrounding landscape. This image illustrates a representative view, within the Transportation Corridor LSZ, containing agricultural/open fields in immediate foreground that are separated by a hedgerow; in the further distance is another field. Vegetation in the foreground and those the distance is deciduous with no visible evergreens. Except for the gray asphalt pavement and the scattered light-colored structures, colors are dominated by natural browns visible in the fields and vegetation, and the blues seen within the sky. The fence, fields, and distant vegetation all form individual horizontal lines; the road edge, individual trees, utility poles along Case Road, and the numerous fence posts provide a series of vertical elements located throughout the view. The residential dwellings visible within the view tend blend into the surrounding vegetation.

With the Facility in place, it is partially screened by the existing dense scrub/shrub hedgerow that is seen bordering the far field. The Facility will be visible where vegetation is lacking or dips below the height of the proposed panels. The panels create a new horizontal line that is introduced into the landscape and may provide a contrast with the surrounding colors. However, it is important to note that the sky makes up a large portion of this view and that the coloration of the panels may blend in with the sky under certain conditions.

Although it is not anticipated that there will be significant visibility of the Facility, mitigation plantings are proposed and evident. The proposed vegetation will be instrumental in screening much of the visible Facility. The plantings from this view are evident in the mitigation simulation, and with the distance between the observer and Facility the plantings blend with the existing vegetation. Views of the mitigation plantings that are seen by motorists will be intermittent and of short duration.

9.2.1.12 Viewpoint 49: G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field

This viewpoint is located in the Town of Lyme, approximately 342 feet northwest of the Facility. This particular location is from behind the field backstop where benches and a bleacher have been placed for spectators. The view shows an open field with mature trees outlining it in the distance. The field and trees provide defined horizontal lines, while there is a vertical definition at either side caused by vegetation or a built structure. The vegetation within view generally consists of deciduous species. Colors are dominated by the greens of the field and vegetation, and blues visible in the sky. Not clearly evident, or just outside this rural view, is an existing access road and lattice style communication tower. It should be noted that this leaf-on, early summer photograph was obtained at the request of the Town of Lyme.

With the Facility in place, the open land and a portion of the existing vegetation seen in the distance is now occupied by the solar panels. The panels and fence conform to the underlying contours mimicking the existing horizontal line that were once evident in the field. The rural character of the view has been altered as the clearly man-made facility is visible, crests a portion of the horizon, and introduces different materials, textures, and colors; thus changing the appearance of the rural character. The dark color of the panels is in contrast of the blue sky. As the Facility extends length wise it appears as a prominent element within view; however, it is consistent in scale with the existing features. In addition, the proposed access road draws attention to the viewer due to its curvilinear form and contrasting color with the panels.

It is anticipated that this view of the Facility will be evident to those utilizing the Field. Duration of view will be contingent on user activity - those participating in a sport may be preoccupied with the activity than the landscape around them, compared to a spectator who may notice the landscape and view the Facility for a longer duration. While there is a possibility for a higher number of viewers at this location during events, it should also be considered that the season of play does not include late fall, summer, and early spring months, use of the Field is more likely on the weekends or in the evening, and users will not be there every day. These considerations reduce the overall number of potential viewers.

Mitigation plantings, which are planned along the property line, will provide screening of the Facility; as the plantings mature, their screening value will increase. The proposed vegetation will add new natural colors and textures as the panels and fencing will be softened, and the horizontal expanse of the Facility is minimized. Views of the mitigation plantings for those using this resource will be available during the length of the activity and will therefore be temporary in nature.

9.2.2 Discussion – Line of Sight Results

Profiles were completed to illustrate the proposed substation from Case Road and of the solar panels from the Chaumont Historic District. Each profile was selected to illustrate how the landscape setting affects visibility and the relationship of Facility components may have to one another in that specific instance. In addition, these profiles assist in confirming visibility, or lack thereof.

Table 10. Line-of-Sight Profiles

ID	Location	Municipality	Approximate Distance to Facility	Landscape Similarity Zone
LOS 1	Case Road	Town of Lyme	1,480 feet to the substation and 350 feet to the panels	Agricultural
LOS 2	Chaumont Historic District	Village of Chaumont	3,080 feet to the panels	Village

The two profiles are discussed below and contained in Attachment 4.

9.2.2.1 LOS 1 – Case Road

The collection substation and interconnection facilities will be located on land adjacent to the National Grid Thousand Island – Coffeen Street #4 Lyme Tap 115 kV transmission line right-of-way. The height of the existing H-Frame transmission structures adjacent to the interconnection are approximately 78 and 66 feet in height, east and west respectively. This compares to the tallest proposed structures within the substation, namely the takeoff at 63 feet one inch and lightning mast at 60 feet; many of the substation components are at a height of (approximately) 25 feet or less.

While there are four simulations that show potential views of the substation, this LOS profile was completed to illustrate its relationship with the proposed solar panels, existing transmission line, and the existing vegetation (as applicable to this particular location). The profile demonstrates that the vegetation will likely provide screening of the substation during leaf-on seasons. Should visibility occur, particularly during leaf-off months, much of the substation will be screened by the panels themselves, thus it will be seen as a small component of the overall Facility.

9.2.2.1 LOS 2 – Chaumont Historic District

This LOS profile was completed to demonstrate that existing vegetation within the vicinity of NYS Route 12E and along Horse Creek will provide screening of the Facility during leaf-on seasons, and likely during leaf-off conditions due to the thickness along the Creek and the general layering of the vegetation. Should visibility exist, the proposed mitigation plantings will also provide a layer of screening, one which contains evergreen trees. This LOS is a very discreet profile between structures located in the Village of Chaumont, one which is unlikely to be comprehensible by travelers and others within the Village setting.

9.3 Visual Impact Rating Results

Simulations illustrating representative views of the Facility, without mitigation, were rated in order to evaluate contrasts under worse-case conditions. In doing so, it is understood that proposed vegetative mitigation will moderate or minimize perceived visual impacts. For further information regarding the effects of mitigation please refer to Section 9.2, and the simulations illustrating post-construction mitigation presented in Attachment 4.

In completing this effort, three panelists evaluated and rated the simulations; Panelists 1 and 2 have been trained in the field of landscape architecture (one which is licensed), and Panelist 3 has been trained in the visual arts with a Bachelors of Fine Arts and a minor in art history, as well as having an environmental background with an M.S. in Soil Science. All three individuals have successfully completed ratings on previous project applications. A description of the methodology used in the rating process is contained in Attachment 7, as well as panelist qualifications, and the completed evaluation forms for each simulated viewpoint.

Table 11 (below) summarizes the scores and averages for Part 1 Visual Contrast, Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity, and Part 3 Existing Scenic Quality. Trends from the rating results can be obtained for the simulations and locations with the strongest or weakest visual change in relation to each other can be assessed. Mean deviations are also calculated to gauge how much variation occurs between panelist evaluation results.

Table 11. Visual Impact Rating Results

VP	Location	Contrast Rating Panelist 1			Contrast Rating Panelist 2			Contrast Rating Panelist 3			Avg Part 1	Mean Dev* Part 1	Avg Part 2	Mean Dev* Part 2	Avg Part 3	Mean Dev* Part 3
		Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3						
6	Morris Tract Road	4	10	1	3.5	12.5	2.5	5.5	10.5	2	4.3 VW**	0.8	11.0 WM	1.0	1.8 M	0.6
11	Case Road	14	6.5	1	18.5	5.5	2	18	4.4	1.5	16.8 M	1.9	5.5 W	0.7	1.5 WM -M	0.3
13	Case Road	17	6	1	19.5	4	1	18	4	1.5	18.2 MS	0.9	4.7 W	0.9	1.2 WM	0.2
16	Case Road	15.5	5	1	21	4.5	2.5	17.5	4.5	2	18.0 MS	2.0	4.7 W	0.2	1.8 M	0.6
29	NYS Route 12E	3	14	1	10.5	14.5	2	5.5	11	2	6.3 W	2.8	13.2 M	1.4	1.7 M	0.4
30	NYS Route 12E	7.5	14.5	1	8.5	11	1.5	4.5	11.5	2	6.8 W	1.6	12.3 M	1.4	1.5 WM -M	0.3
37	Weaver Road	15	5	1	15.5	3.5	2	13.5	4	0.5	14.7 M	0.8	4.2 W	0.6	1.2 WM	0.6
40	Morris Tract Road	10	13	1	12.5	9.5	1	14.5	10	1	12.3 WM	1.6	10.8 WM	1.4	1.0 W- WM	0.0
42	County Route 125	4	14.5	1	1.5	12	1.5	3.5	14.5	1	3.0 VW	1.0	13.7 M	1.1	1.2 WM	0.2
44	County Route 59	11	10	1	4	9	1.5	4	8.5	1	6.3 W	3.1	9.2 WM	0.6	1.2 WM	0.2

Table 11. Visual Impact Rating Results

VP	Location	Contrast Rating Panelist 1			Contrast Rating Panelist 2			Contrast Rating Panelist 3			Avg Part 1	Mean Dev* Part 1	Avg Part 2	Mean Dev* Part 2	Avg Part 3	Mean Dev* Part 3
		Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3						
45	NYS Route 12E	3.5	11	1	4.5	10.5	1.5	4	11	2	4.0 VW	0.3	10.8 WM	0.2	1.5 WM-M	0.3
49	G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field	18.5	11	1	18.5	9	1.5	19.5	7.5	1.5	18.8 MS	0.4	9.2 WM	1.2	1.3 WM	0.2

*Mean Dev = mean deviation

**VW=very weak, W=weak, WM= weakly moderate, M=moderate, MS=moderately strong, S=strong

9.3.1 Part 1 Contrast Rating

Part 1 Contrast Rating, described in Attachment 7, rates the proposed visual change against existing conditions with respect to compositional elements such as newly introduced lines, shapes, colors, Facility scale, and broken horizon lines. Under Part 1, there are nine categories to rate, where the total rating ranges from 0 to 27. When the rating contrast scale outlined in Section 8.0 is rescaled to account for the averages found in Table 11, with respect to the nine categories, the scale is as follows:

Contrast Rating Scale	
0	None
0 - 4.5	Very Weak
4.5 - 9	Weak
9 - 13.5	Weakly Moderate
13.5 - 18	Moderate
18 - 22.5	Moderately Strong
22.5 - 27	Strong

Three simulations, viewpoints (VP) 13 and 16 on Case Road and VP49 at G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field, were identified as having a moderately strong Part 1 Contrast Rating. These locations achieved rating averages of 18.2, 18.0, and 18.8, respectively. Each have clear unobstructed views of the Facility and range from 274 to 356 feet from the fence line. Proximity and high visual acuity in addition to new color, shape, and line that contrasts with the existing landscape contribute to the high ratings for these simulations. Broken horizon lines are observed at VPs 13 and 49 which also increases their contrast results.

The next set of simulations with lower contrast results, rating weakly moderate to moderate, include VP11 at Case Road, VP37 at Weaver Road, and VP40 at Morris Tract Road with rating averages of 16.8, 14.7, and 12.3, respectively. Distance to the fence line is more varied as VP11 is 212 feet away, VP37 is 596 feet away, and VP40 is 1,901 feet away. These three simulations show that new Facility components are introduced into view. VP11 is proximal but the panels do not interrupt the horizon line. VP37 is farther away but is partially screened by existing vegetation while panel colors are also visually absorbed due to similar adjacent leaf-off vegetative hues. VP40 is distant and the panels do not provide high Facility contrast. However, tree clearing that changes the horizon line is observed, as well as a partial view to the Facility.

The remaining six simulations have rating averages that are considered to be weak (VPs 29, 30, and 44) and very weak (VPs 6, 42, and 45). These viewpoint locations range in distances of 948 feet to 7,339 feet (1.4 miles) from the Facility fence line. Longer distant partial views to the panels, as well as existing intervening vegetation along sight lines help explain the weak and very weak rating results for this set of simulations. Facility siting and large road offsets influence the diminished visibility, which is particularly important for viewers along the nearby NYS Route 12E

/ Great Lakes Seaway Trail (Seaway Trail). VPs 29, 30, and 45 are from the Seaway Trail and were determined to have weak and very weak contrasts. Facility offsets minimize the perceived size and scale of the panels while its siting is such that intervening vegetation seen along the Seaway Trail will screen much of the view.

Mean deviations were calculated to observe the level of variance between the panelists within each simulation evaluation. Mean deviations ranged between 0.3 and 3.1, thus there is general agreement between the panelists. However, the greatest difference of opinion occurred with the simulation completed for VP44; the Part 1 Project Contrast for this location rated as weak yet resulted in the highest mean deviation of 3.1. Review of the completed evaluation forms indicate that one panelist consistently rated the contrasts within this simulation at least one point higher for most of the Part 1 categories as compared to the other panelists. It appears panelist opinion also varied the most regarding contrast changes when assessing VPs 16 and 29. VP29 has a mean deviation of 2.8. While the Facility is barely discernible at this location because of existing intervening vegetation, differences of opinion appear to occur in assessing the level of contrast that the proposed tree clearing provides. VP16 has a mean deviation of 2.0; in reviewing the evaluation forms one panelist consistently rated most Part 1 categories a half point lower as compared to the other two panelists.

9.3.2 Part 2 Viewer Sensitivity

There are eight categories under Part 2 to rate where the total rating ranges from 0 to 24. When the rating contrast scale outlined in Section 8.0 is rescaled to account for the averages found in Table 11, with respect to the eight categories, the scale is as follows:

Contrast Rating Scale	
0	None
0 - 4	Very Weak
4 - 8	Weak
8 - 12	Weakly Moderate
12 - 16	Moderate
16 - 20	Moderately Strong
20 - 24	Strong

Part 2 of the contrast evaluation form considers viewer sensitivity, particularly if the viewpoint falls within or has a view of an existing visual resource. It also accounts for the character of viewer groups such as number of viewers, duration of view, presence of existing development, etc.

Table 4 indicates that there will be few views of the Facility from listed visual receptors. Therefore, most of the simulated locations emphasize viewer groups related to community roadway travelers or residences. Included with roadway travelers was a focus to provide simulations of representative views along NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail, County Route 125, and

Morris Tract Road, the two latter roadways are recognized as local roads of scenic interest. Rating averages range from 4.2 to 13.7 and thus weak to moderate. Viewpoints 29 and 30 (both along the Seaway Trail), and VP 42 County Route 125 are the exceptions that had a moderate average rating. The higher ratings (10.8 to 13.7) of all the locations simulated are attributed to locations along a designated scenic roadway. VP49 at G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field, a local recreational resource listed in Table 4 has a rating of 9.2. Remaining viewpoints are on local roads near residences.

Mean deviations for Part 2 Viewer Sensitivity show variance ranging between 0.2 and 1.4., and results show common agreement as these ratings are generally less subjective. Review of the evaluation forms suggest that in some instances there were slight differences of opinion on how panelists rated existing development, the duration of view, or the numbers of viewers based the location of the viewpoint and abundance of residences in the area.

9.3.3 Part 3 Scenic Quality

Part 3 Scenic Quality is a standalone single rating that assesses the overall scenic quality of the existing conditions for each simulated location in order to establish a baseline condition (see Attachment 5). For this rating, there is no evaluation of visual change, only a simple appraisal of the scenic quality of the view - a rating of 1 is weak, 2 is moderate, and 3 is strong.

Scenic quality for the simulated viewpoints was generally rated as weak/weakly moderate to moderate with averages ranging from 1.0 to 1.8. However, weak or moderate rating averages do not fully imply that views are not attractive, restful, or important to the community. Although there are rural, restful, unchaotic and harmonious pastoral views of open fields with little development, panelists felt that they were average, typical of the region, and did not offer a high degree of visual interest such as landscape diversity, show distinct focal points that enhance scenic quality or offer other types of outstanding views (for additional information refer to Attachment 7). Most simulations have a similar large horizontal shape in each view consisting of level foreground-midground fields in the bottom third of the image, a band of background trees in the middle, and the upper third of the photos showing sky. However, the intent was to provide simulations of the Facility from some visual resources and present representative views of what the community would experience from residences and roadways.

Mean deviations for Part 3 are comparatively very low, ranging between 0.0 and 0.6. This suggests the panelist's opinions on scenic quality regarding each simulation are very similar with little difference of opinion.

10.0 LIGHTING

Lighting is proposed only at the Facility substation, and is only intended for security, safety, and maintenance purposes. Details regarding the Facility's Lighting Plan, such as the type, number, location, elevation of exterior fixtures is included in the Design Drawings contained in Exhibit 5 Appendix 1. This plan was developed to minimize fugitive light while meeting lighting standards

established by the National Electric Safety Code (NESC). The proposed lighting also complies with OSHA requirements, as proper illumination will be provided for all working spaces around the electrical equipment. All of which has been designed so that control points or persons making repairs will not be endangered by “live parts” or other equipment.

Lights are located on such structures as the takeoff, control house, CT metering, and three pole mounted locations - two of which are located near entries to the substation. All lighting will be activated manually and installed facing downward to minimize potential impacts to the surrounding public. Lighting has been designed to provide an average of 2 foot-candles¹⁸, to eliminate unnecessary light trespass beyond the substation. Light fixtures will be mounted at a height not to exceed 15 feet and will not be illuminated during unoccupied periods. Full cut-off fixtures and task lighting will be used wherever feasible, as specified in the Lighting Plan.

11.0 MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION PLAN

Mitigation measures may be implemented in order to reduce, or minimize, potential visibility and generally consists of proper siting and design, and vegetative plantings. These strategies are outlined below and supplement those identified in Exhibit 8 of 19 NYCRR §900.2.9.

When a solar facility is decommissioned and removed, the land can be returned to other productive use, including farming. In this way, a solar lease can be a way to preserve land for potential future agricultural use. Until this situation arises, large-scale solar projects can be made less visible from roads or other public vantage points by through the use of mitigating strategies. Techniques such as using low profile equipment, taking advantage of natural topographic and vegetative screening, increasing road setbacks, siting against tree lines, and avoiding the use of overhead interconnection lines where possible.

11.1 Siting and Design

Siting layout and design considerations that offer mitigation are summarized as follows:

- Minimizing the amount of vegetation clearing and use of existing vegetation such as the surrounding woodlands and hedgerows as visual barriers as much as possible¹⁹. For additional information on clearing, please refer to Exhibit 11.
- Panels proposed against background trees to reduce visual contrasts, as color contrasts are absorbed and moderated by the background trees.
- The Facility has been sited to meet or exceed setback requirements identified by ORES, and the Towns of Lyme and Brownville. Exhibit 5 provides additional detail and the

¹⁸ 2 foot candles is equivalent to 22 lux where 1 lux is 1 lumen per square meter - 2 foot candles are equivalent to 22 lumens per square meter.

¹⁹ The Applicant complies with the Town of Lyme local law on the amount of tree clearing.

distances used. These setbacks are applicable to Facility components such as solar panels, inverters, and the collection substation.

- The Facility has been located at least 800 feet away from the NYS Route 12E/Great Lakes Seaway Trail corridor, thus taking advantage of increased distance and existing vegetation located between the roadway and the proposed fence and panels.
- Use of antireflective coatings on solar panels. Solar photovoltaic panels are also designed to absorb light, not reflect light, and therefore, produce minimal, if any, glare.
- Racking systems consist of non-reflective metallic materials.
- General site location placed far from sensitive agency recognized and listed visual receptors.
- The Facility shall be sited in a manner that will take advantage of existing screening so that visibility will be minimized or eliminated from the core downtown area of the Village of Chaumont; thus, reducing potential visibility by a relatively larger number of viewers.
- The collection substation is located adjacent to the existing transmission line to minimize the distance between the two and consolidate like structures and land uses. The substation is located approximately 3,854 feet and 1,480 feet away from Morris Tract Road and Case Road, respectively.
- Collection lines have been placed underground (via direct burial or trenching) to decrease additional aboveground impacts. This configuration allows continued use of the land within the Facility Site. In some instances, the lines will be buried via HDD in order to avoid wetland resources and roadways
- Minimized vegetation clearing outside of the panels in order to preserve existing trees and other vegetation for Facility screening to the best extent possible.
- The Facility is displacing a short segment of the snowmobile trail, the Applicant shall continue talks with the Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club about this situation and re-route the displaced section in a manner that is suitable to both.

11.2 Planting Plan

Vegetative mitigation, or screening, can be effective in further minimizing views. In order to provide additional screening, a landscape plan was developed that contains sustainable, hearty and resilient plantings that primarily consist of native/indigenous species. The proposed Planting Plan has an emphasis on evergreens which will help minimize year-round views into the Facility site. Additionally, ornamental, pollinator-friendly, small trees and shrubs have been incorporated into the plan to provide a more natural look, as well as being more aesthetically pleasing and complimentary to the surrounding area.

The Landscaping Plan developed for the Facility can be found in Attachment 4 and Appendix 5-1. The following items and concepts were applied to the plan:

- The Towns of Brownville and Lyme Zoning Laws were reviewed, and the visual screening efforts meet the stated intent of the requirements to the best extent possible. The Town of Lyme had met with the Applicant in order to review and approve the proposed plan.
- Native/indigenous evergreen trees and pollinator-friendly deciduous shrubs and small ornamental tree species were selected for inclusion into the plan. The species chosen will need to reach an adequate height and width to provide the appropriate visual screening, while also maintaining minimum mature heights that will not produce shade over the Facility in later years. Deciduous and evergreen tree species include: balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), northern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), eastern white cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), white spruce (*Picea glauca*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), and downy shadbush (*Amelanchier arborea*). Shrub species include: red chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), red twig dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), common witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), common winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), and highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*).
- The plantings are proposed along the outside fence line or at property boundaries in locations noted on the Landscaping Plan. Two planting types (or modules) are proposed for an approximate total of 12,430 linear feet along portions of the south and west Facility boundary:
 - Mitigation Planting Template Type 1: This planting scheme provides a density of plantings that will be considered a typical visual screening effort for the Facility. Approximately 32 deciduous and evergreen trees, per 300 feet of linear planting, are being proposed. White spruce and eastern red cedar make up the majority of the trees being suggested within this grouping. In addition, 21 shrubs are also included within this template. Type 1 plantings will be utilized/implemented along 10,750 linear feet (86% of the proposed plantings) of the Facility.
 - Mitigation Planting Template Type 2: This planting scheme provides a higher density of plantings to screen views. Approximately 39 deciduous and evergreens trees, per 300 feet of linear planting, are being proposed. Eastern red and northern white cedars make up most of the trees being suggested within this grouping. In addition, 28 shrubs are also included within this template. Type 2 plantings will be utilized/implemented along 1,680 linear feet (14% of the proposed plantings) of the Facility.
- Expected growth heights (depending on the specific tree or shrub species) are between 5 to 15 feet at 5 years. However, fully mature heights of the evergreen tree species may reach 40 to 60 feet high.

- A grass seed mix using native/indigenous warm and cool season grasses was developed especially for the areas under and around the solar panels and is considered favorable for wildlife habitat and sustainable growth. The seed mix will provide a groundcover that minimizes erosion concerns, does not pose any shading issues, and is manageable year-round.
- A native pollinator seed mix is intended to be sown in a designated 10-foot-wide area located outside of the panels, and around the perimeter of the proposed landscape mitigation buffer. Native flowers in the mix will provide an attractive display of colors during the growing season.
- It is important to note that an annual maintenance program will be provided to ensure that proper care and attention is given to the proposed plantings once they have been installed. Maintenance will include, but may not be limited to, selective pruning, mowing, and monitoring of invasive species.
- Due to the siting of the collection substation, vegetative mitigation was not deemed necessary.

12.0 VISIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION

Potential visibility of construction activities is anticipated to be temporary in nature. Construction of a typical facility normally involves the following major undertakings: building/upgrading roads; constructing laydown areas; removing necessary vegetation from areas of construction; transporting components and other materials and equipment to the Facility Site; assembling the solar panels; constructing ancillary structures (e.g., collection substation, fences); and installing power-conducting cables (typically buried). During this time there will be an increase in vehicular traffic, equipment, and workers seen within the Facility Site and the immediate surrounding area; construction may result in the temporary increase of dust and emissions. All of this is typical of major construction projects.

Construction activities will vary in frequency and duration. There may be periods of intense activity followed by periods with less activity and associated visibility will vary in accordance with construction activity levels.

13.0 SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS – VISUAL IMPACTS DURING OPERATION

The information in this VIA provides an understanding of the visual relationship between the Facility and its surrounding landscape. To achieve this, a series of viewshed maps, photographic simulations, and line-of-sight profiles were developed and analyzed. The following provides a summary of the findings and impacts related to the Facility.

1. The screened viewshed map (Figure 3 of Attachment 2) of the solar panels illustrates the geographic area where visibility is likely to occur. This realistic scenario objectively shows that there is minor visibility expected (14.05%) within the VSA. The majority of which is predicted to occur within the Foreground distance zone where 11.54% of the potential visibility will occur.
2. As seen on Figures 2 and 3 of Attachment 2 visibility of the solar panels will occur on properties belonging to participating landowners. The Facility Site hosts approximately 1.38 square miles or 883 acres of visibility and is comprised of land that is currently leased or owned by the Applicant. Visibility within these lands account for 30.1% of the total identified visibility.
3. Distance zones and landscape similarity zones were identified in the two-mile VSA.
 - a. Two distance zones were identified, Foreground (up to 0.5 miles) and Middleground (0.5 to 2 miles) for use in the VIA. The Foreground distance zone has the highest percentage of potential visibility at 11.54% of the total VSA acreage; there is a significant decrease of visibility found in the Middleground as only 2.51% will have views of the Facility. This can be expected as there is a higher concentration of visibility within close proximity of the Facility Site and the existing forested areas (including applicable hedgerows) provide effective screening as the viewer moves further away thus obscuring many outward views. To further describe the effect of distance on visibility, a background distance zone was described, but it fell outside the VSA.
 - b. There are five landscape similarity zones within the VSA. The zones consisting of the most land include the Agricultural and Forested zones at 58.94% (12,320 acres) and 34.45% (7,200 acres), respectively.
 - c. It is expected that the Agricultural LSZ will have the greatest potential visibility caused by the Facility; actual percent of visibility within this LSZ is 13.17%. The remaining LSZ's and anticipated visibility include: Forested with 0.64%, Transportation Corridor with 0.19%, Water with 0.03%, and Village at 0.0021%.
4. The screened viewshed analysis shows that the proposed substation and interconnect will not be visible from most areas within the VSA. Section 9.1.4 discusses visibility solely from station components in the absence of the panels. Most visibility occurs within the Foreground distance zone - 4.72% of a total 6.07% found within the VSA. The geographic area where these components are visible generally occur on lands within the Facility Site and areas already containing views of the solar panels.
5. The substation has been sited more than 1,480 feet from Case Road. With the exception of the seasonal snowmobile trails, Case Road is likely to have the most year-round visibility of the substation. In both instances it will be seen in conjunction with, and

compatible with the Facility and adjacent (existing) 115kV transmission line, thus minimizing contrast in land uses.

6. It is anticipated that seven listed visual resources will have views of the Facility. These include the NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail, the C5J snowmobile trail, the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field, the Lyme Rod and Gun Club, the Village of Chaumont, Morris Tract Road, and County Route 125.

Visibility of the Facility will be minimized through the use of proposed landscape plantings (e.g., G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field [see below for example]) and/or siting (e.g., separation of NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail and the Facility [see below for example]); as well as other factors such as distance (e.g., Lyme Rod and Gun Club) and/or duration of view (e.g., views along the C5J snowmobile trail will be short).



G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field – Image illustrates the screening provided by the proposed mitigation landscape plan (see Attachment 5 for the set of simulations from this location).



NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail – Image illustrates the effect of distance and the existing hedgerow has on visibility the Facility (see Attachment 5 for the set of simulations from this location).

Views of the Facility from within the Village are screened as a result of existing vegetation and structures. However, there is a possibility for visibility, mostly discreet, to occur at the NYS Route 12E municipal boundary and along the northeast Village boundary that bisects Morris Tract Road.

7. Users of local roadways adjacent to the Facility may experience transient views that could range from partial to open. These views will be reasonably short in duration, thus the time available to observe the Facility may be limited. In some instances, the ability of commuters to focus on individual landscape components will be restricted, further minimizing visibility.
8. Due to the rural nature and landscape setting of the VSA, it is expected that the number of observers experiencing views considered to be of a long duration will be low. It is anticipated that the mitigation plan will significantly reduce visibility of the Facility from residential properties along Case Road.

9. Overall Facility contrast and visual effect will vary depending on the extent of panel visibility (partial or full), distance from the viewer, and if they are seen in the context of other existing modifications to the local landscape. In some instances, background vegetation seen behind the Facility minimizes visual contrast, as the panels are perceived to be visually absorbed by similar color and color value expressed by the background trees. Color differences between the Facility and the landscape may provide contrast but it will vary throughout the seasons and time of day.
10. There will be no interference with the general enjoyment of many of the identified recreational resources, as views of the Facility are not anticipated or will be limited. Three views along the NYS Route 12E/Seaway Trail were simulated and show that overall visibility will be minimal and are expected to be short in duration. Visibility will be minimized from NYS Route 12E due in part to an existing hedgerow and by maintaining the agricultural/vacant land between the roadway and Facility.

However, the snowmobile trail running through the area will have a variety of views to the Facility but will also be seen within the context of the existing transmission line; views from the G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field will be available, but the mitigation and seasonal play should minimize the overall number of potential observers.

11. Two line-of-sight profiles were undertaken to illustrate how or why the collection station and the Chaumont Historic District is or is not visible. Many open views along Case Road are possible and the (portion of) substation may be visible to those using or living along the roadway. The profile shows the substation relationship to the panels and provides an example of its distance from Case Road.

A profile from the Historic District was also provided to illustrate the distance and existing screening between this resource (and the Village core) and the Facility.

12. Nine simulations had Part 1 Facility contrast ratings that are very weak to moderate. The weakest of the group was viewpoint 6 on Morris Tract Road. The simulation with the highest contrast rating of moderately strong was seen at viewpoint 49 at G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field. This higher rating is due to the proximal location and unobstructed view to the Facility. In reviewing the Part 2 viewer sensitivity contrasts, nine of the simulations were rated as weak to weakly moderate, the remaining three had a moderate rating, this was attributed to being along a designated scenic roadway.

With the inclusion of the landscape plantings, contrasts are likely to be softened and moderated as the trees and shrubs are more congruous with the existing environment, thus the Facility color and value contrasts are reduced.

13. In some instances, the most noticeable aspect of the Facility could be the removal of the existing tree stands. In this case, should there be sensitivity, it is anticipated that it will likely diminish over time due to continual exposure.

Other factors assessing the degree of visual change from the Facility can be considered including:

- Through the use of efficient solar panels, the Applicant is able to limit the amount of land required to achieve its objective of 100MW generating capacity. Additionally, solar facilities typically result in a minimal amount of ground disturbance thereby preserving the ability to use the land for agricultural purposes in the future following decommissioning.
- While the area surrounding the Facility may consist of many pastoral views, the characteristic of the landscape seen within the VSA is typical of what may be found in other areas of New York. Overall, the Facility will not impair regional landscape characteristics.
- The panels will not always be in an upright position as it is meant to track the sun. Therefore, during certain times of the day, the panels may appear in, or in a near horizontal configuration, thus resulting in an even lower profile.
- The Facility will not always appear as a dominant feature in a view contained within the VSA. This may be, in part, a result of the surrounding landscape (e.g., when the Facility is seen against large stands of vegetation), or the effect of the increasing distance between the Facility and viewer (e.g., as distance increases, the Facility may be seen as a smaller component in the overall view).
- The Applicant has utilized reasonable mitigation measures to the maximum extent practicable with respect to the overall design and layout of the Facility. This includes the proposed vegetative plantings that screens views to nearby residents.
- Visual clutter often is adversely perceived and commonly results from the combination of human-made elements that have differing shapes, colors, forms, patterns, or scales. Generally, solar facilities offer simple and uniform patterned that may be more visually consistent, as compared to a development consisting of mixed types and sizes of objects. However, this is not to diminish that these are man-made structures within agricultural fields.
- Aside from the low local road traffic (see Table 1), public areas in the vicinity to the Facility are not exceedingly high-use destination areas. This results in a lower number of individuals that could potentially view the Facility. One exception is the Chaumont Bay, while this may draw tourists, etc., visibility of the Facility is not anticipated from this resource.
- The Facility does not have an adverse effect on a known listed scenic vista and does not impact or degrade existing scenic resources.
- The Facility substation does not create a new source of substantial light that would adversely affect nighttime views in the area.

- Based on the completed screened viewsheds, it does not appear that the Facility and the Convergent Energy + Power Project will not be seen from a single vantage point. These, in theory, will remain seen as two separate developments and will not have a cumulative impact within the same view.
- A glint and glare analysis was undertaken by Capitol Airspace Group and is considered to be a part of Exhibit 8. The study was undertaken to identify potential glint and glare impacts on nearby residences and roads, and the need for any necessary mitigation. As a result of the study, there are no predicted glare occurrences for nearby residences or roadways. Please refer to their study titled *Riverside Solar Project – Glint & Glare Analysis* (July 8, 2021) in Exhibit 8 Attachment 2 for further information.

14.0 REFERENCES

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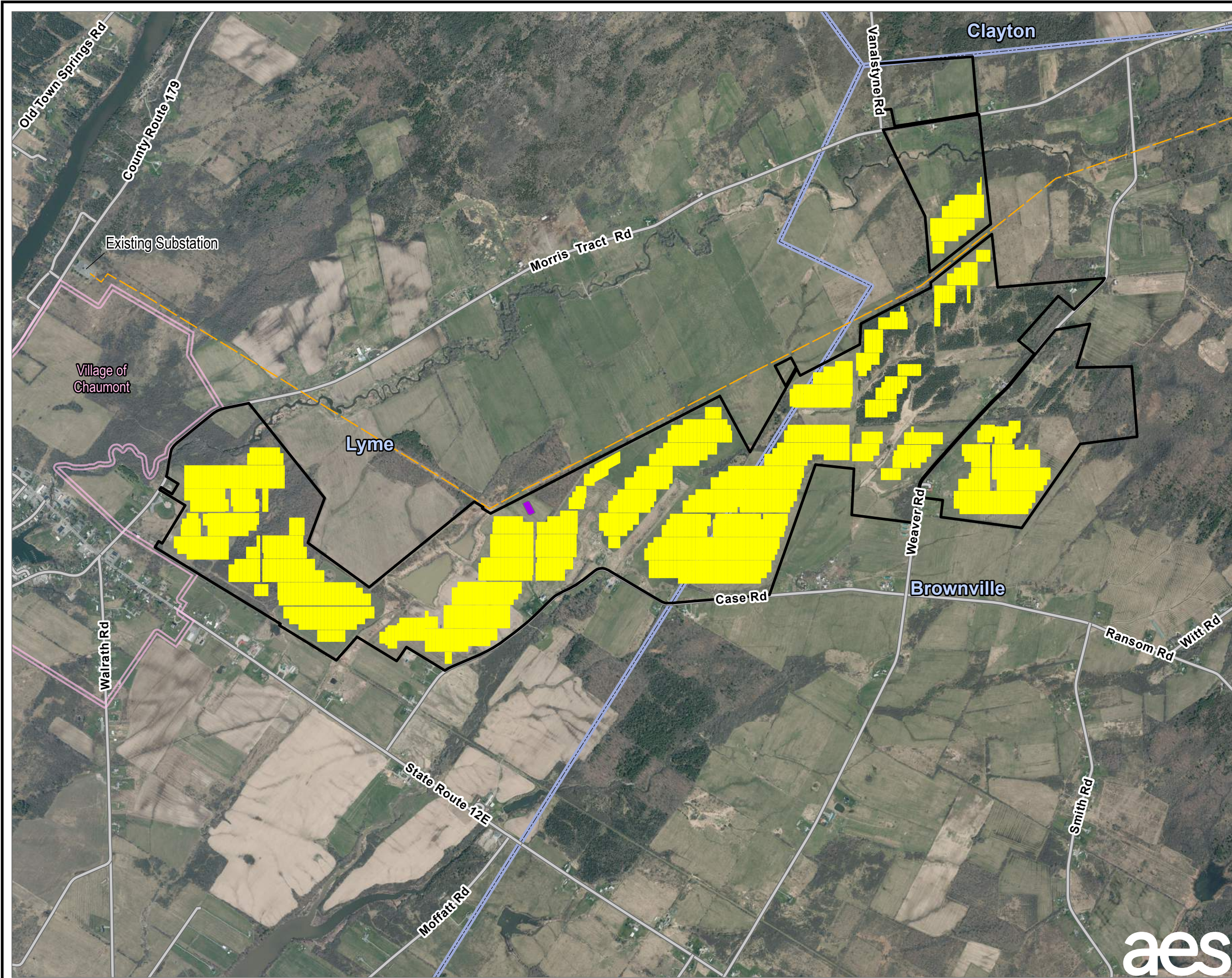
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Attachment 1: Site Location Map




LEGEND


- PROPOSED COLLECTION SUBSTATION
- PROPOSED INVERTER
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- FACILITY SITE
- EXISTING NATIONAL GRID TRANSMISSION LINE
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT


NOTES:
1. THIS FIGURE IS DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED OR PRINTED IN COLOR AT 11X17.



BASE MAP: NYSGIS "LATEST" 2020 ORTHOIMAGERY ONLINE SERVICE LAYER.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS.



1:20,349
1" = 1,696'





PROJECT:		RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE:		Site Location Map	
DRAWN BY:	A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.:	373222
CHECKED BY:	J. BARTOS	FIGURE 1	
APPROVED BY:	J. GUARIGLIA		
DATE:	SEPTEMBER 2021		
		 215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	

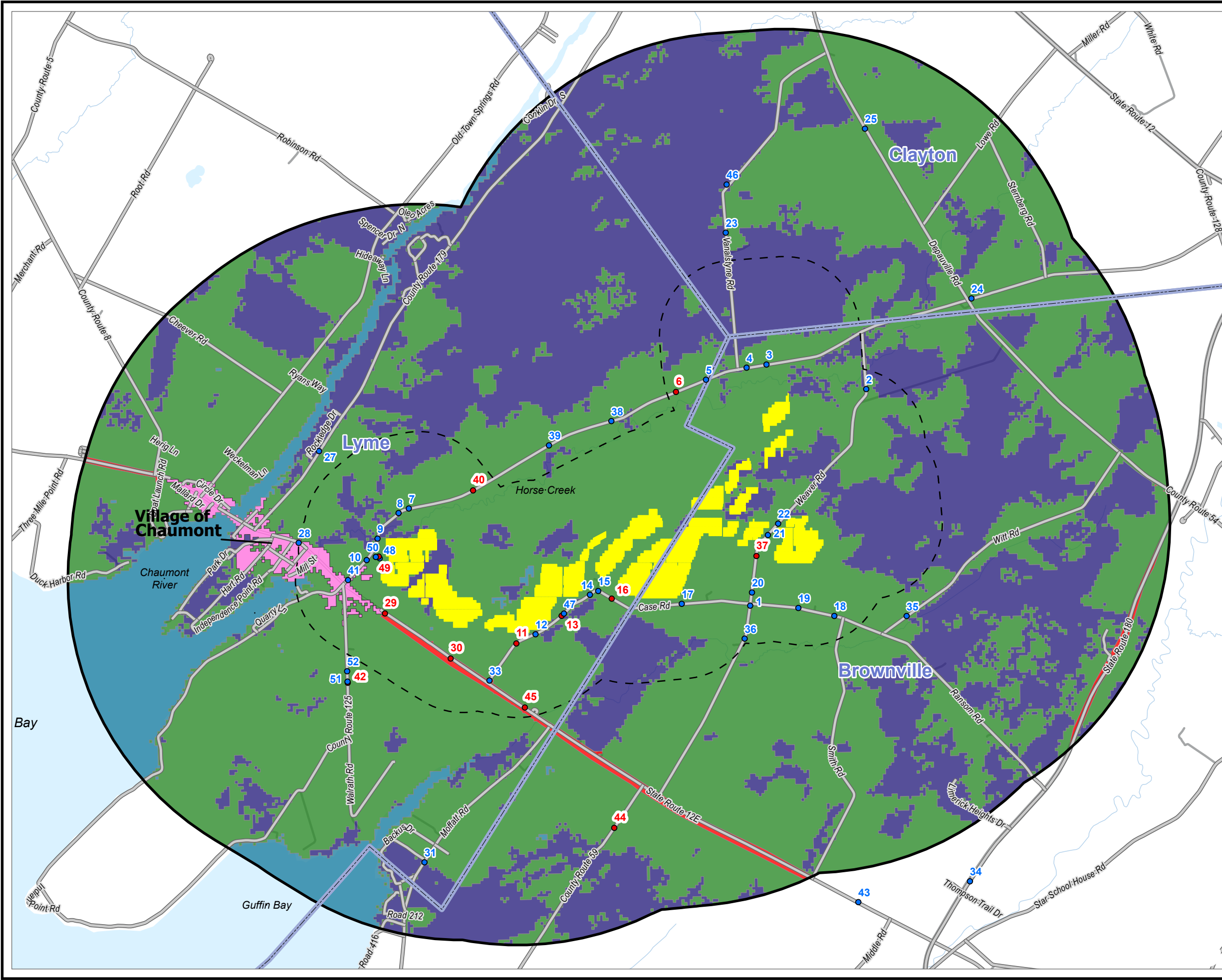
Attachment 2: Maps:

Figure 1. Landscape Similarity Zones

Figure 2. Overview of Aesthetic Resources and PV Panel Viewshed

Figure 3. Potential Visibility and Aesthetic Resources for Solar Panels

Figure 4. Potential Visibility and Aesthetic Resources for Collection Station



LEGEND

- SIMULATION VIEWPOINT LOCATION NUMBER
- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION NUMBER
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- - - HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- ▭ TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- ROADS
- LANDSCAPE SIMILARITY ZONES
 - AGRICULTURAL
 - FORESTED
 - VILLAGE
 - TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR
 - OPEN WATER

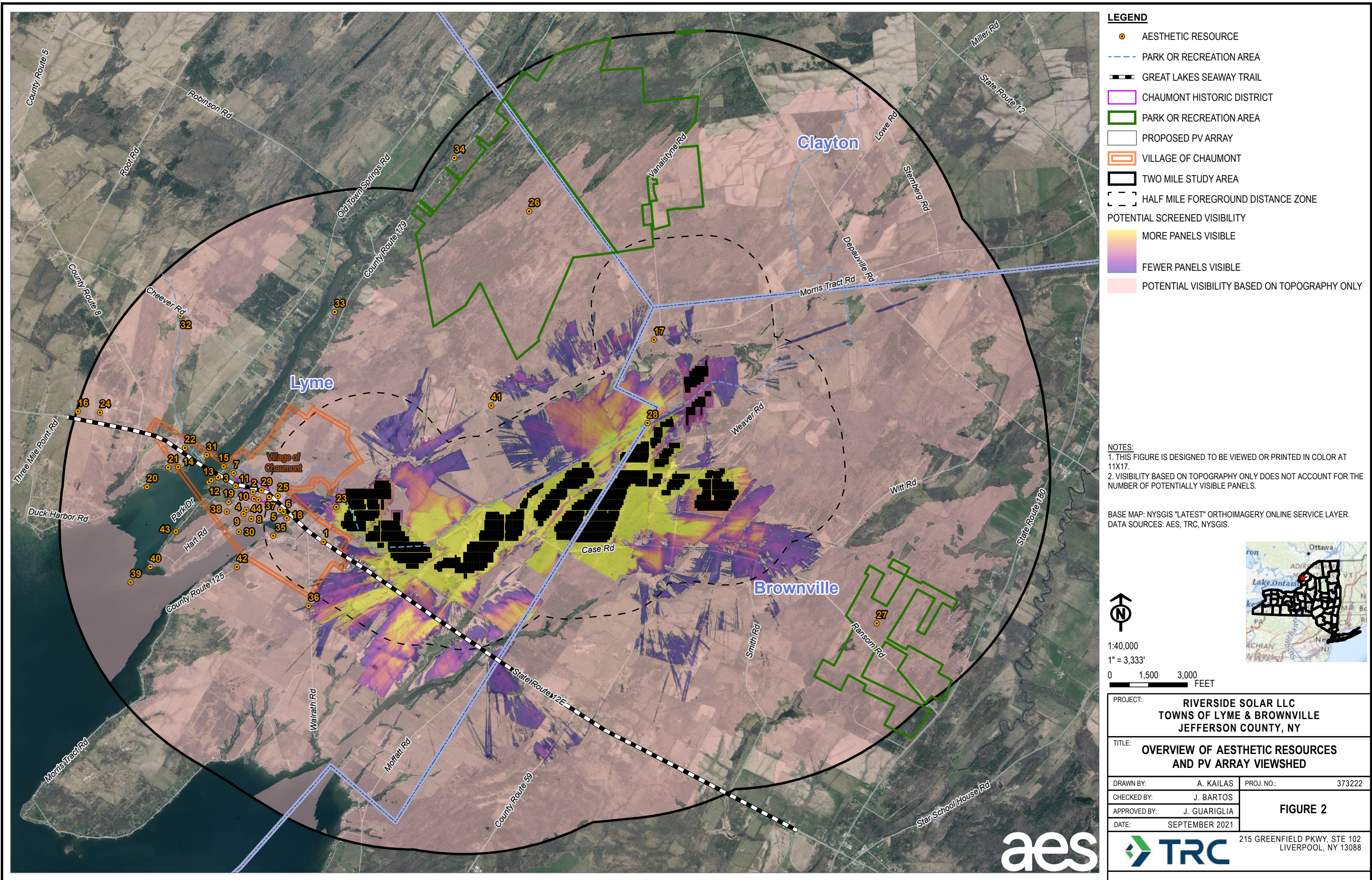
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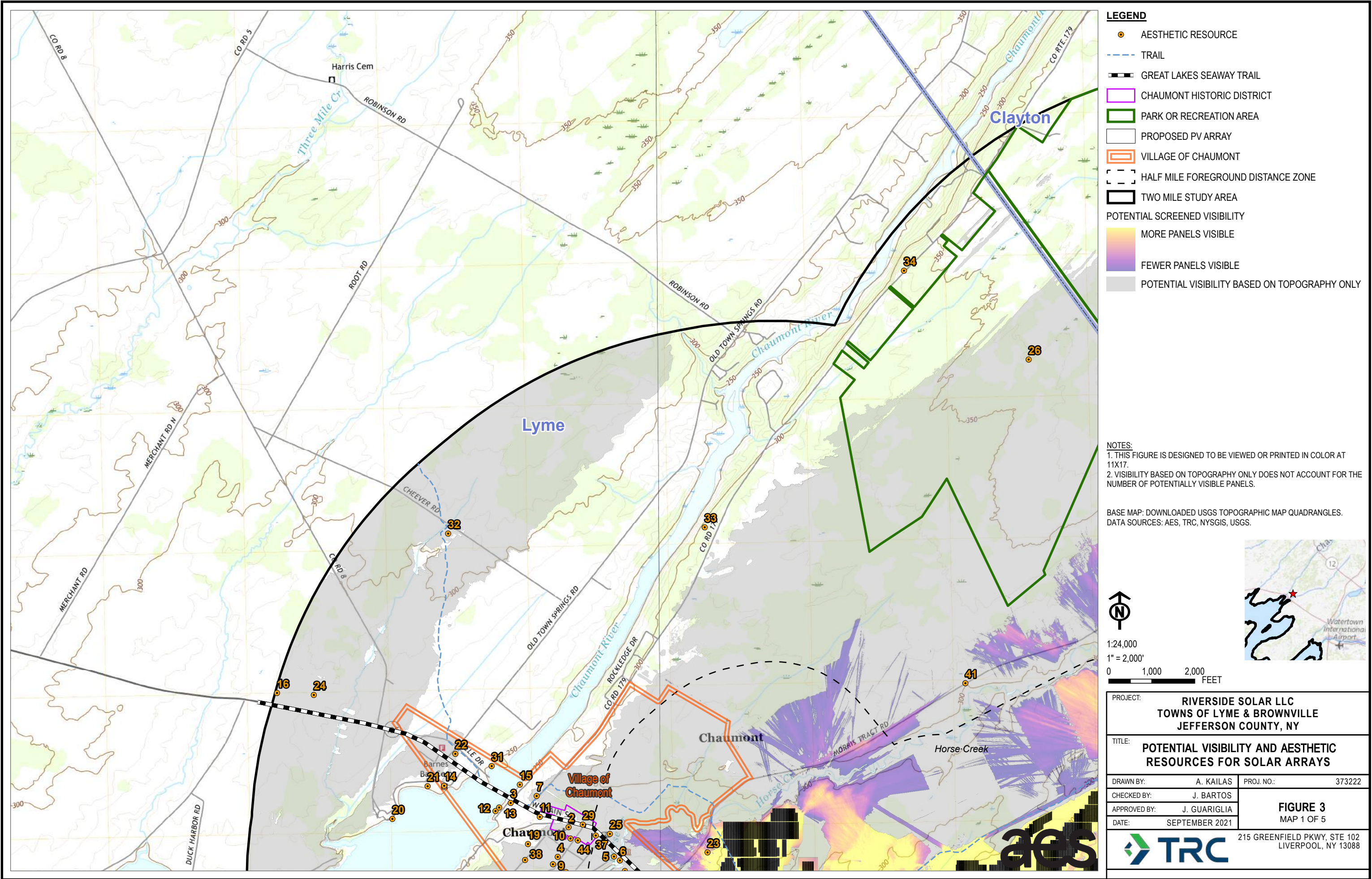
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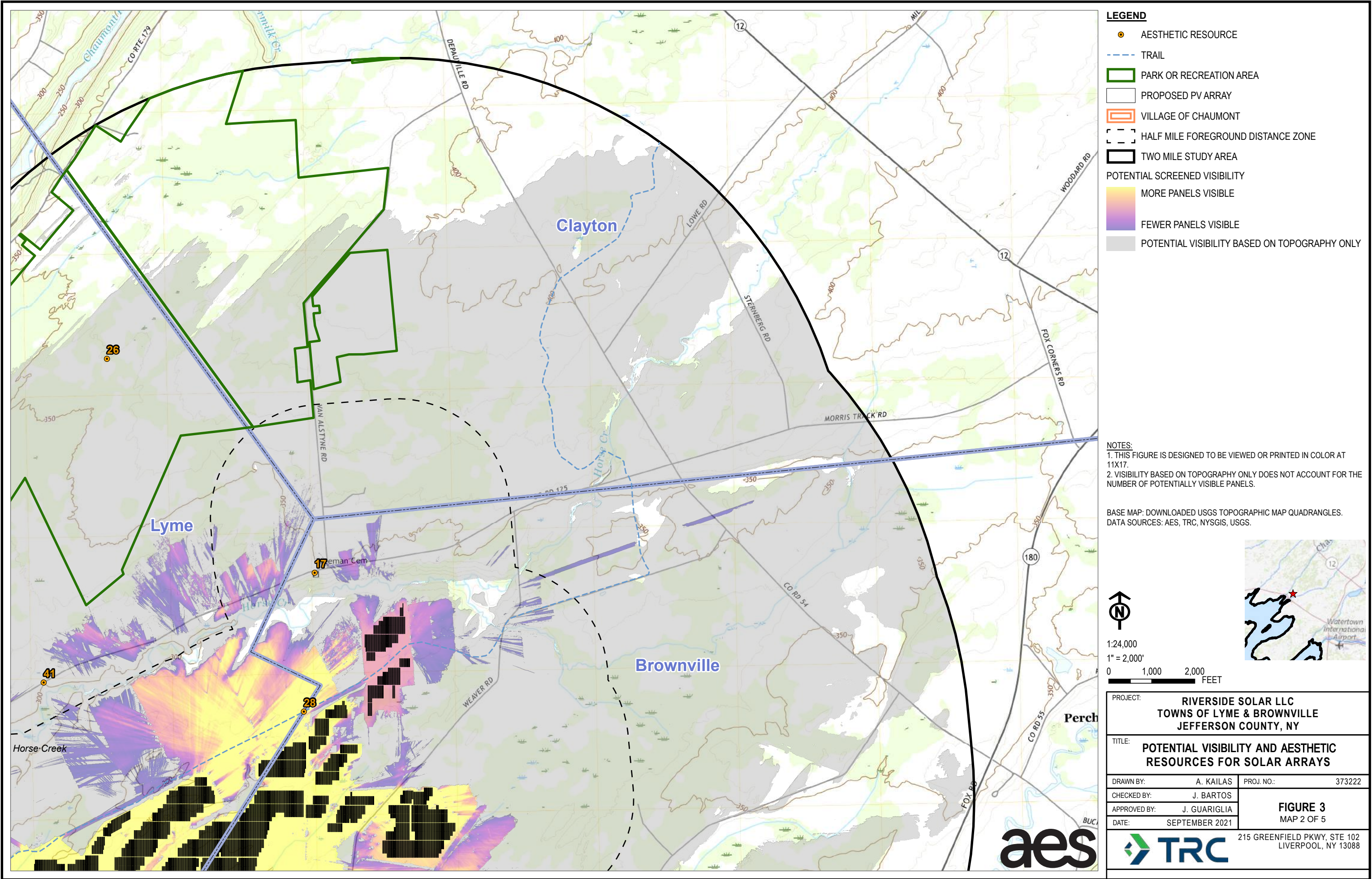
BASE MAP: ESRI "WORLD TERRAIN BASE" 2021 ONLINE SERVICE LAYER.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS.

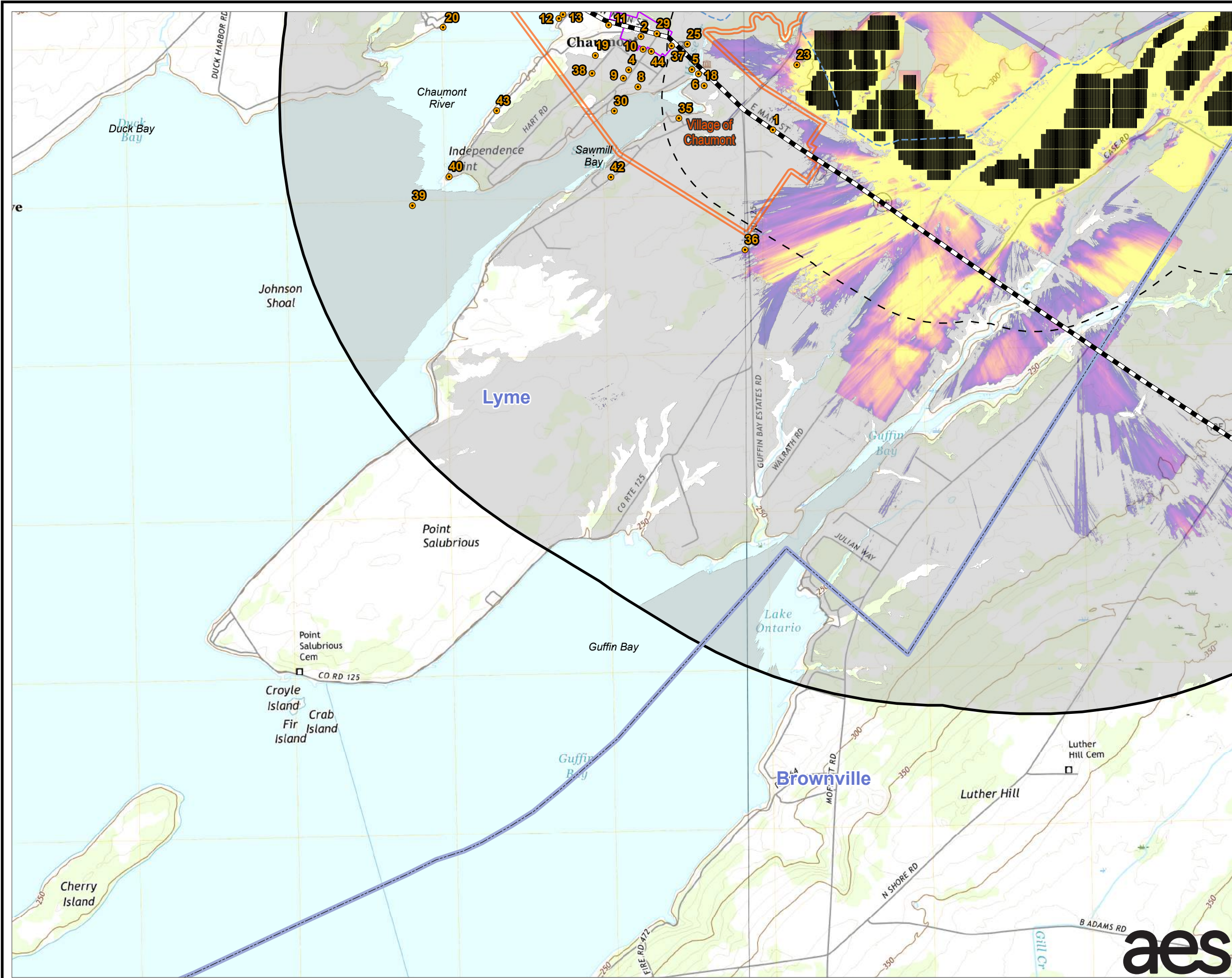
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1" = 3,333'
0 1,500 3,000 FEET

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TITLE: LANDSCAPE SIMILARITY ZONES	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 1
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	









LEGEND

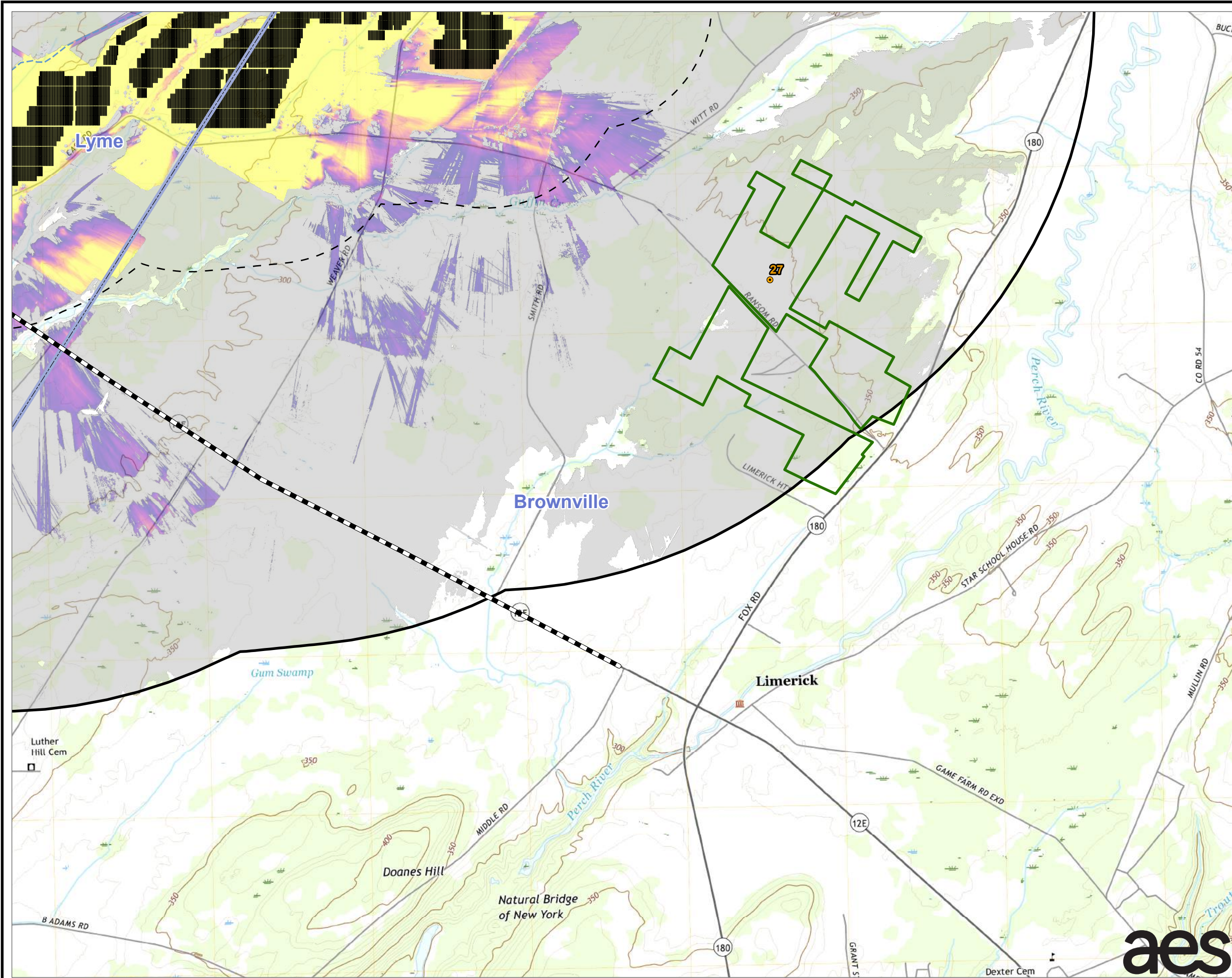
- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY
 - MORE PANELS VISIBLE
 - FEWER PANELS VISIBLE
 - POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY

NOTES:
1. THIS FIGURE IS DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED OR PRINTED IN COLOR AT 11X17.
2. VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE NUMBER OF POTENTIALLY VISIBLE PANELS.

BASE MAP: DOWNLOADED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLES.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, USGS.

1:24,000
1" = 2,000'
0 1,000 2,000 FEET

PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR SOLAR ARRAYS	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 3 MAP 3 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	



LEGEND

- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- PARK OR RECREATION AREA
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA

POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY

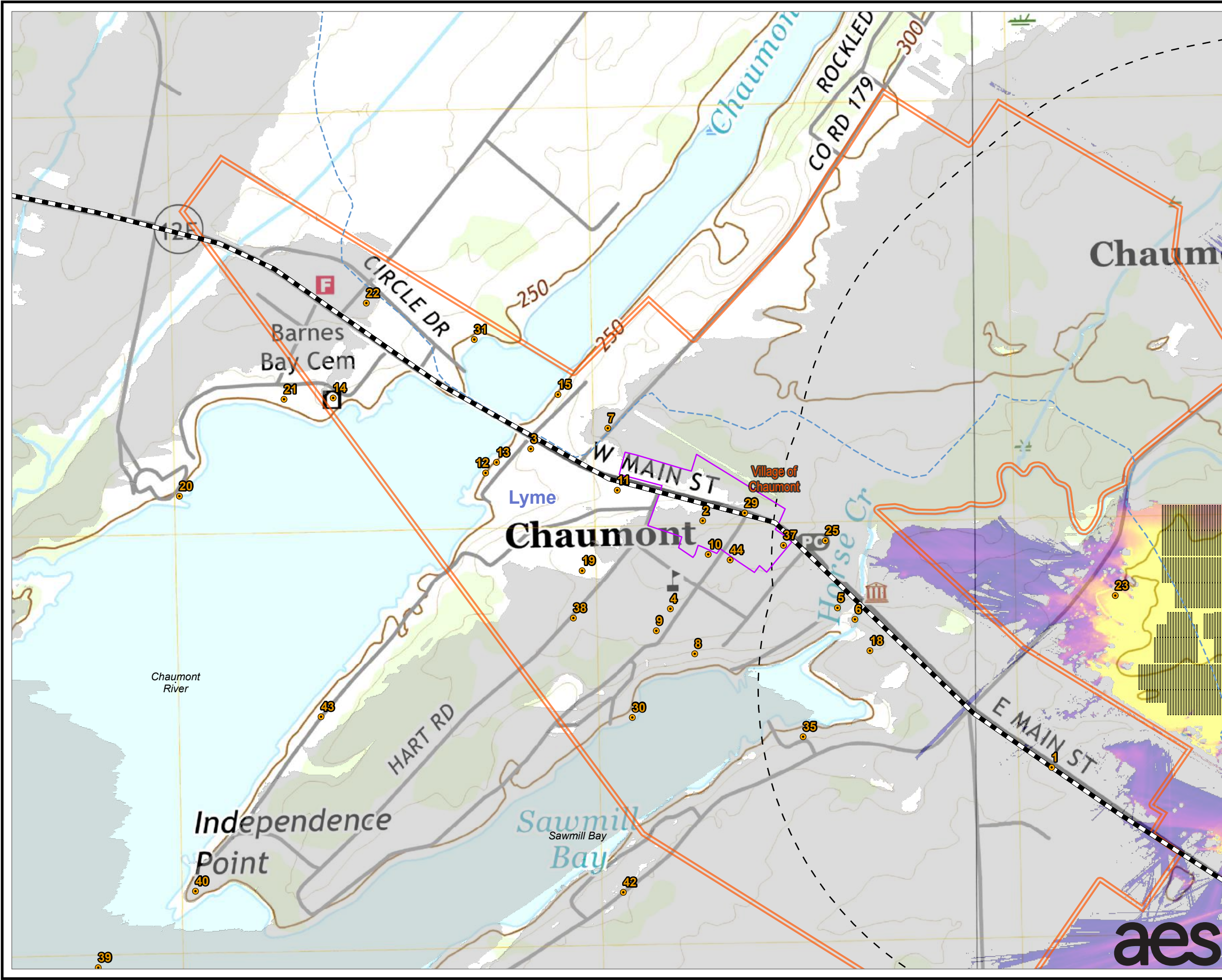
- MORE PANELS VISIBLE
- FEWER PANELS VISIBLE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY

NOTES:
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BASE MAP: DOWNLOADED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLES.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, USGS.

1:24,000
1" = 2,000'
0 1,000 2,000 FEET

PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR SOLAR ARRAYS	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 3 MAP 4 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	



LEGEND

- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA

POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY


- MORE PANELS VISIBLE
- FEWER PANELS VISIBLE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY


NOTES:
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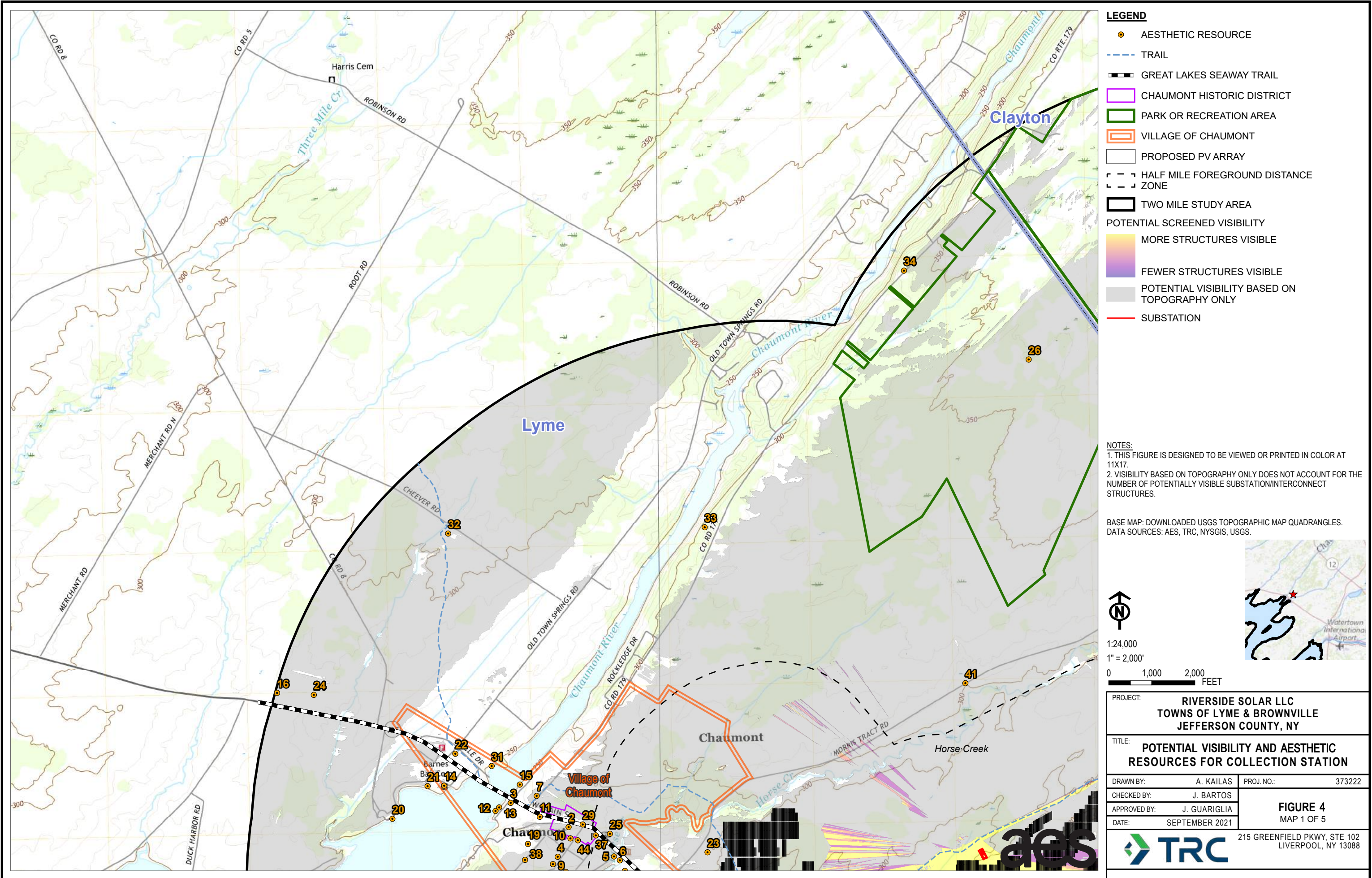
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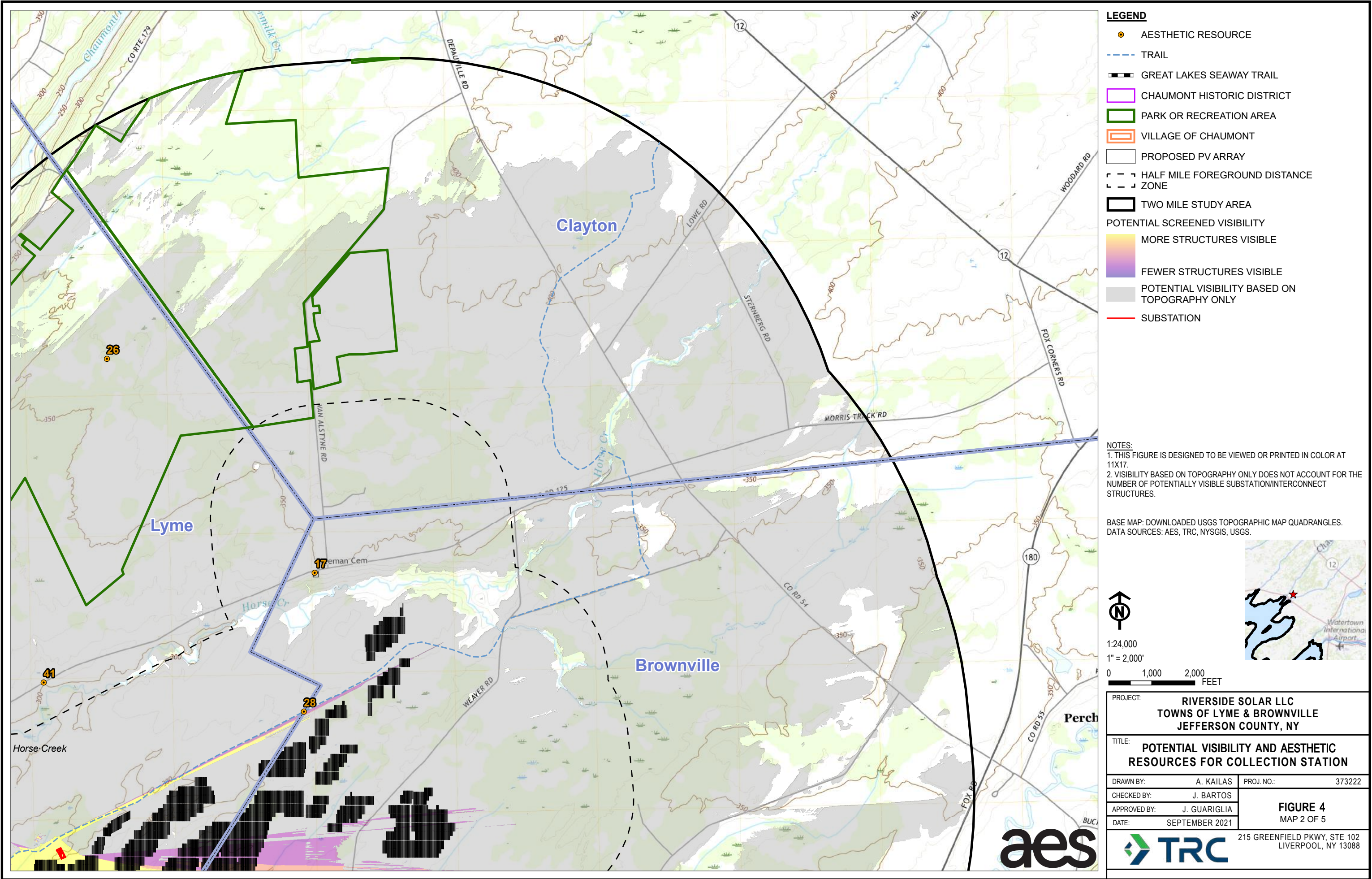
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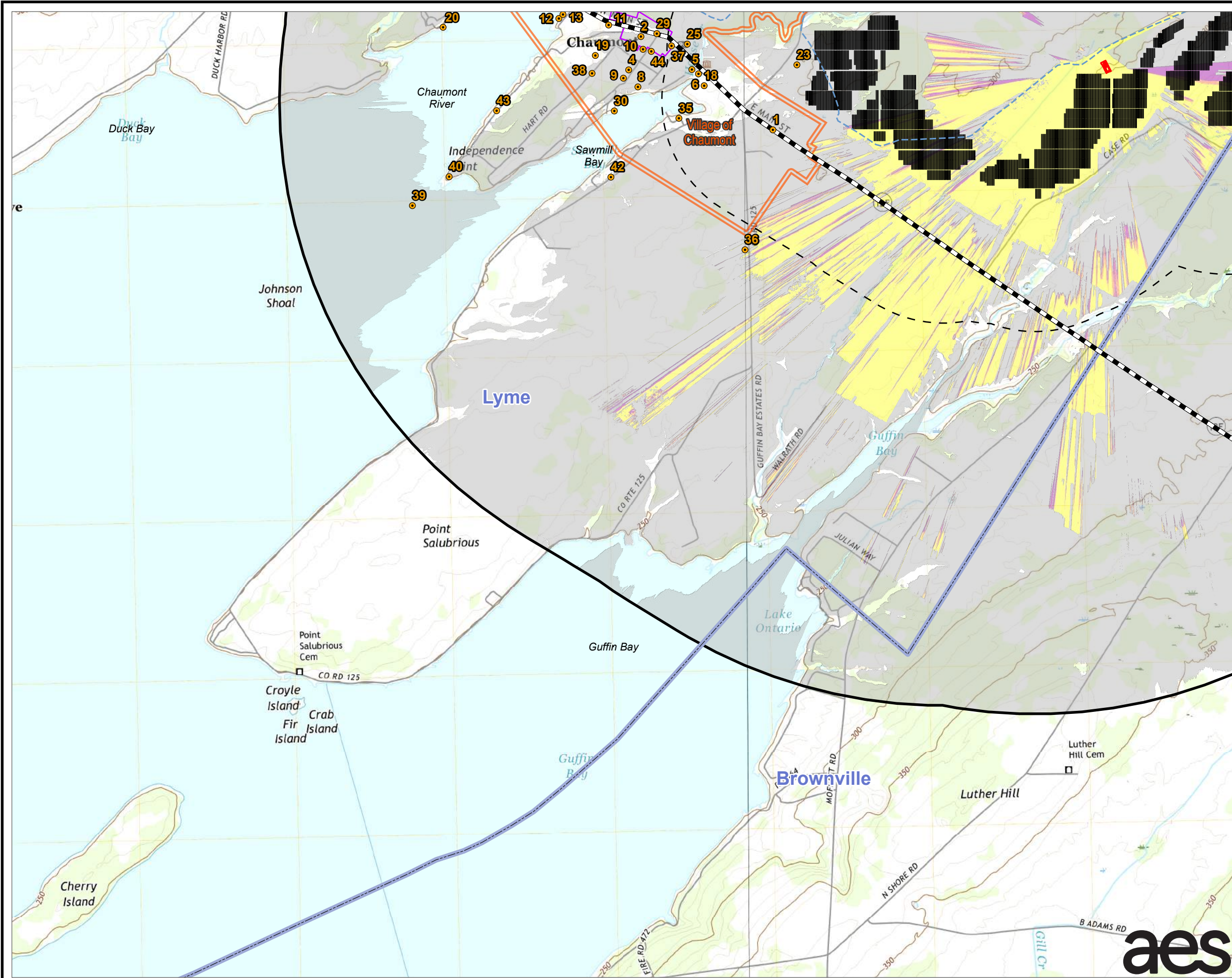




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TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR SOLAR ARRAYS	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 3 MAP 5 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
  215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	







LEGEND

- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PARK OR RECREATION AREA
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY
 - MORE STRUCTURES VISIBLE
 - FEWER STRUCTURES VISIBLE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY
- SUBSTATION

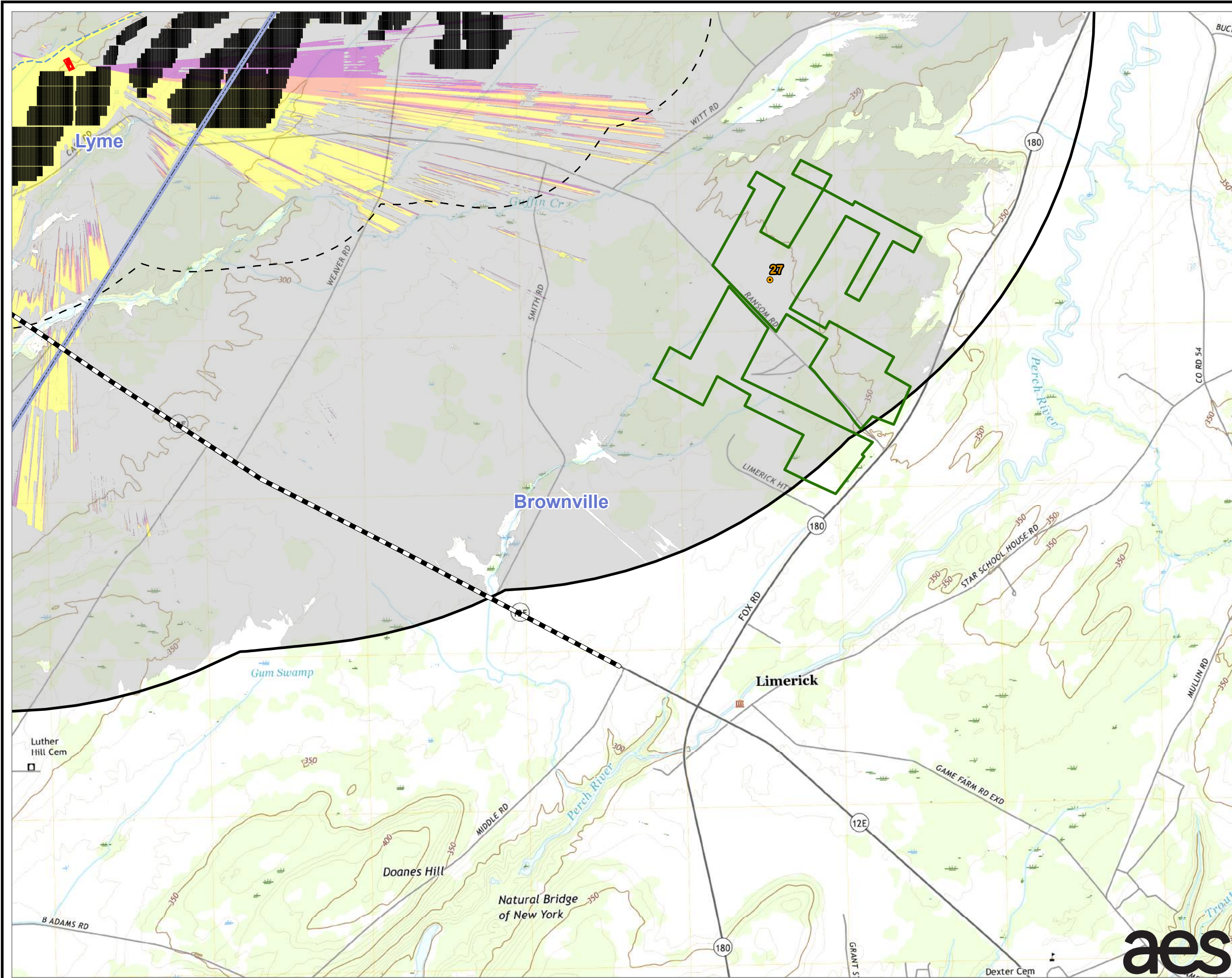
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2. VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE NUMBER OF POTENTIALLY VISIBLE SUBSTATION/INTERCONNECT STRUCTURES.

BASE MAP: DOWNLOADED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLES.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, USGS.

1:24,000
1" = 2,000'
0 1,000 2,000 FEET



PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR COLLECTION STATION	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 4 MAP 3 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
aes	
TRC	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	



LEGEND


- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PARK OR RECREATION AREA
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY
 - MORE STRUCTURES VISIBLE
 - FEWER STRUCTURES VISIBLE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY
- SUBSTATION

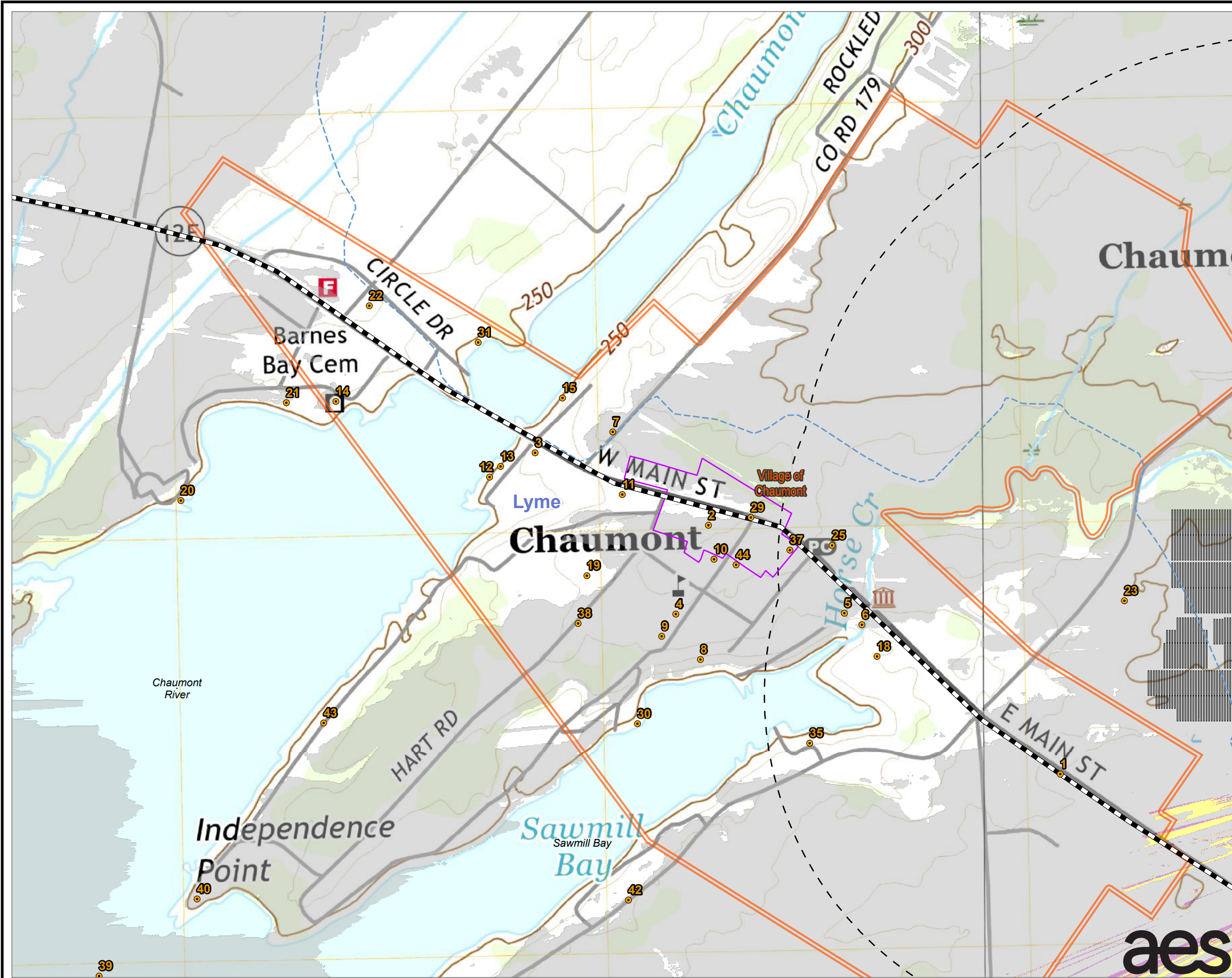
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1. THIS FIGURE IS DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED OR PRINTED IN COLOR AT 11X17.
2. VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE NUMBER OF POTENTIALLY VISIBLE SUBSTATION/INTERCONNECT STRUCTURES.

BASE MAP: DOWNLOADED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLES.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, USGS.

1:24,000
1" = 2,000'
0 1,000 2,000 FEET



PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR COLLECTION STATION	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 4 MAP 4 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
 215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	



LEGEND

- AESTHETIC RESOURCE
- TRAIL
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PARK OR RECREATION AREA
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- HALF MILE FOREGROUND DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- POTENTIAL SCREENED VISIBILITY
- MORE STRUCTURES VISIBLE
- FEWER STRUCTURES VISIBLE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY
- SUBSTATION

NOTES:
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2. VISIBILITY BASED ON TOPOGRAPHY ONLY DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE NUMBER OF POTENTIALLY VISIBLE SUBSTATION/INTERCONNECT STRUCTURES.

BASE MAP: DOWNLOADED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLES.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, USGS.

1:9,000
1" = 750'

0 590 1,180 FEET

↑ N

PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES FOR COLLECTION STATION	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. BARTOS	FIGURE 4 MAP 5 OF 5
APPROVED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	



Attachment 3: Existing Landscape Photolog

VIEWPOINT 1



NNW



NNE



NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06131 -76.07129	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 2



WSW



W



WNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.08192 -76.05575	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 3



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.08432 -76.06894	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 4



SE



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.08404 -76.07157	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 5



S



SSW



WSW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.08291 -76.07696	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 6



S



SSW



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.08176 -76.08094	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 7



E



ESE



SSE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.07078 -76.11640	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 8



NE



ENE



E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	A	9/18/2020	44.07035 -76.11776	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 9



E



SE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06792 -76.12057	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 10



NNE



E



SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, Donaldson Memorial Ball Field	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06588 -76.12202	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 11



NNW



N



NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.05783 -76.10225	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 12



NE



N



NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.05870 -76.09973	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 13



WSW

W

NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06045 -76.09626	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 14



NE

ENE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Bar Z Farm	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06245 -76.09250	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 15



NE

E

SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Bar Z Farm	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06280 -76.09140	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 16



NE



E



SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06206 -76.08961	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 17



W



NNW



NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06153 -76.08035	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 18



WNW



NNW



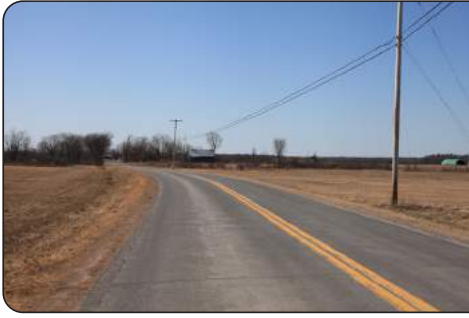
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Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06028 -76.06016	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 19



WNW



NW



NNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06106 -76.06492	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 20



WNW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06257 -76.07105	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 21



W



NW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06804 -76.06889	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 22



SW



WSW



W

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06913 -76.06752	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 23



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Vanalstyne Road, The Nature Conservancy, Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Town of Clayton	F	3/19/2021	44.09694 -76.07422	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 24



S



SW



WSW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, Reynolds Corner	Town of Clayton	A	3/19/2021	44.09051 -76.04174	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 25



SSE

S

SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 54	Town of Clayton	A	3/19/2021	44.10679 -76.05570	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 26



S

S

SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 54, Depauville	Town of Clayton	V	9/18/2020	44.13866 -76.06828	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 27



SE

SSE

S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 179	Town of Lyme	A	9/18/2020	44.07631 -76.12825	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 28



NE

E

SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Chaumont Historic District, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	V	9/18/2020	44.06756 -76.13101	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 29



NNE

NE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	T	3/19/2021	44.06077 -76.11964	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 30



N

NNE

NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	T	3/19/2021	44.05643 -76.11098	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 10 of 18



VIEWPOINT 31



N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Moffatt Road	Town of Lyme	A	9/18/2020	44.03699 -76.11460	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 32



NNW

N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 59	Town of Brownville	W	9/18/2020	44.00753 -76.14926	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 33



NW

N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	T	3/19/2021	44.05431 -76.10586	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 34



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 180	Town of Brownville	T	9/18/2020	44.03485 -76.04244	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 35



SW



WNW



NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Witt Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06023 -76.05059	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 36



WNW



NW



NNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.05817 -76.07205	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 12 of 18



VIEWPOINT 37



NE



E



ESE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.06605 -76.07043	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 38



SE



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.07902 -76.08952	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 39



SSE



S



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.07673 -76.09780	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 40



S



SSW



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.07247 -76.10789	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 41



NE



ENE



ESE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road	Village of Chaumont Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.06398 -76.12451	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 42



N



NNE



ENE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 125	Town of Lyme	A	3/19/2021	44.05417 -76.12462	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 43



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Brownville	T	3/19/2021	44.03294 -76.05723	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 44



NNW



N



NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 59	Town of Brownville	A	3/19/2021	44.04017 -76.08946	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 45



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	T	3/19/2021	44.05171 -76.10120	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 15 of 18



VIEWPOINT 46



ESE

SE

S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Vanalstyne Road, The Nature Conservancy, Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Town of Clayton	F	3/19/2021	44.10154 -76.07406	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 47



WSW

W

WNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	A	5/24/2021	44.06067 -76.09598	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 48



NE

ENE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Donaldson Memorial Ball Field	Town of Lyme	A	5/24/2021	44.06604 -76.12030	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 49



NE

ENE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Donaldson Memorial Ball Field	Town of Lyme	1,4	5/24/2021	44.06621 -76.12041	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 50



ESE

SE

SSE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Donaldson Memorial Ball Field	Town of Lyme	A	5/24/2021	44.06617 -76.12081	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 51



NE

ENE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 125	Town of Lyme	A	5/24/2021	44.05424 -76.12460	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

VIEWPOINT 52



NE



E



ESE

Location:

Lyme Rod & Gun Club

Municipality:

Town of Lyme

LSZ:

A

Photo Date:

5/24/2021

Lat/Long

44.06621
-76.12041

County:

Jefferson

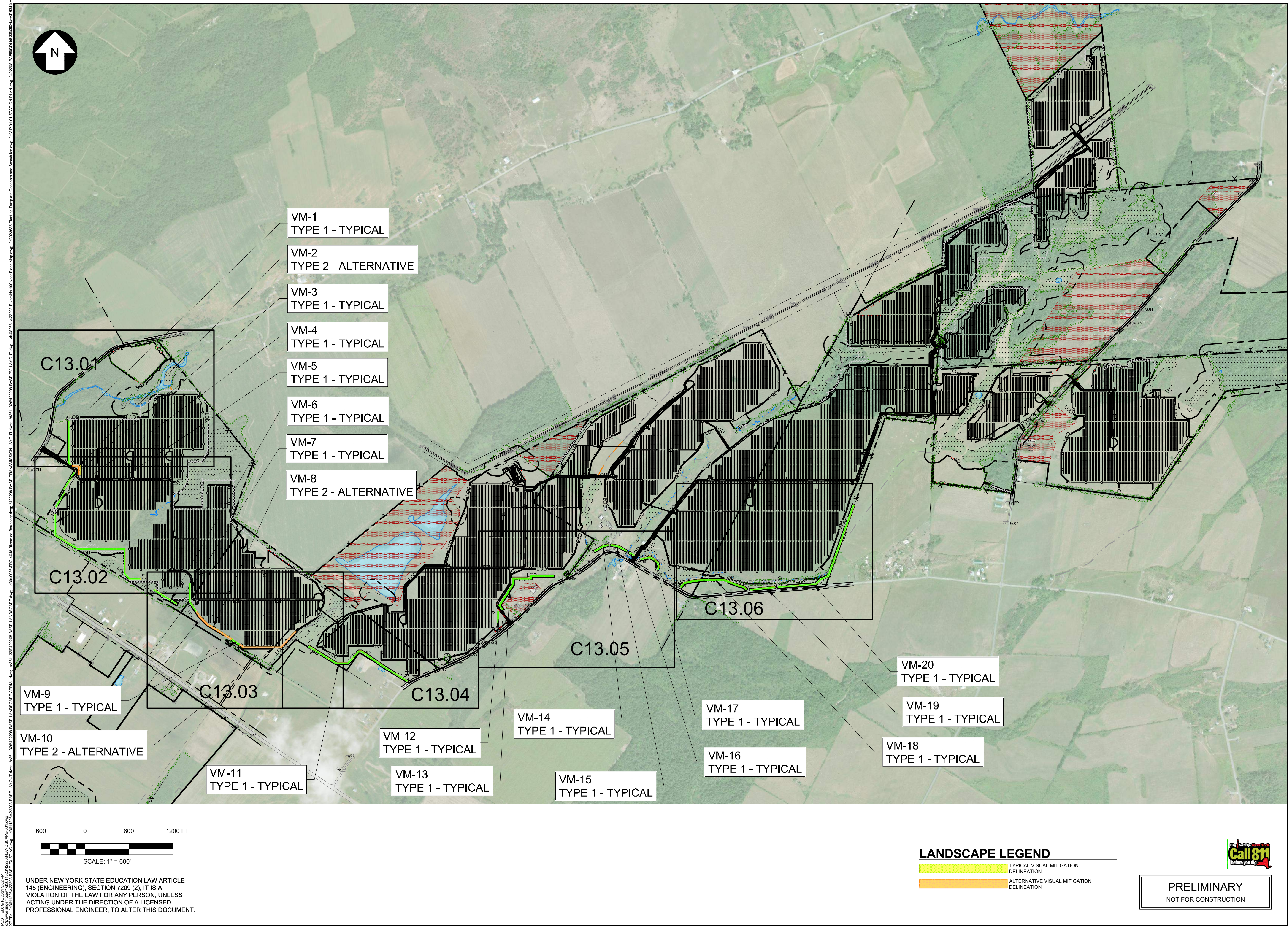
Photo Log

Riverside Solar Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 18 of 18



Attachment 4: Landscape Plan and Electrical Layout



2180 South 1300 East, Suite 600
Salt Lake City, UT 84106-2749
(801) 679 - 3500



249 Western Avenue
Augusta, ME 04330

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08/05/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
2	09/10/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

PROJECT TITLE:

RIVERSIDE SOLAR
PROJECT

PROJECT LOCATION:

TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

OVERALL LANDSCAPE
PLAN

PROJ
NUM: 422208

DES: M. ROSS

DWN: T. FIEBRANZ

CHK: M. ROSS

APV: -

DATE: 04/15/2021

SCALE AT 24" x 36":

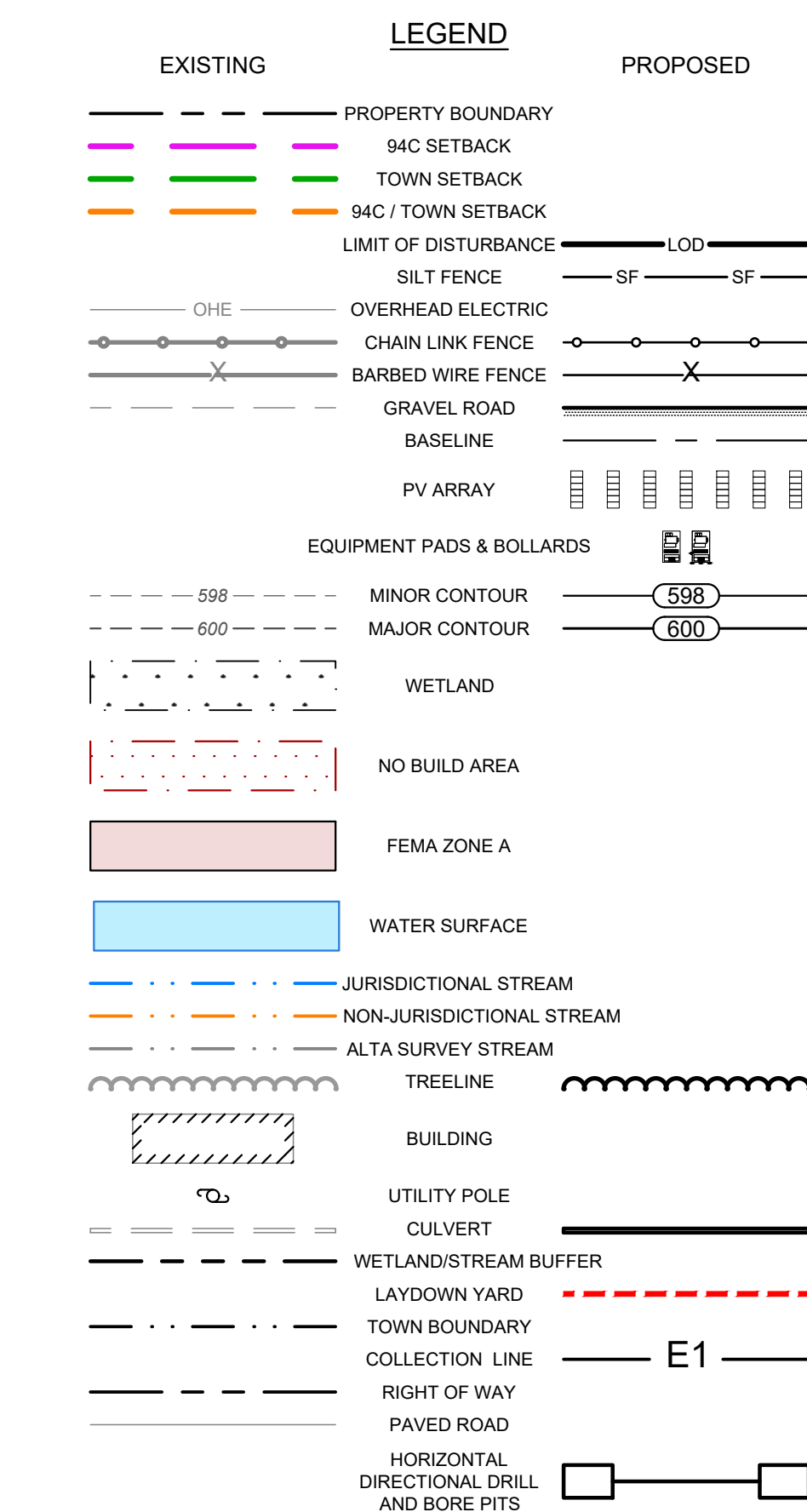
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SHEET NO:



PV-C.13.00

REV:

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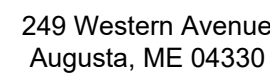


LANDSCAPE LEGEND

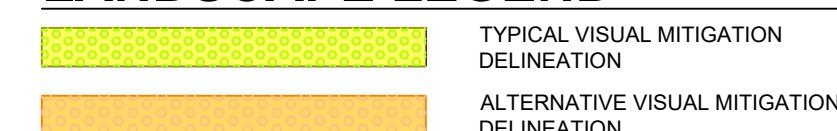
	TYPICAL VISUAL MITIGATION DELINEATION
	ALTERNATIVE VISUAL MITIGATION DELINEATION

Dig! Safety. New York.
Call 811
before you dig

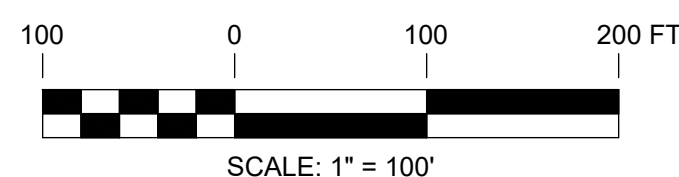
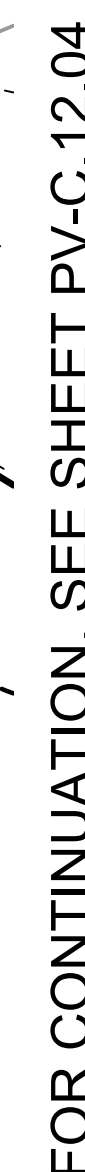
FOR CONTINUATION, SEE SHEET PV-C.12.02



REV



VEGETATIVE BUFFER / SCREEN MITIGATION TABLE			
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25	VM-10	N 44.059316	W 76.110635
26	VM-10	N 44.059309	W 76.108755
27	VM-10	N 44.059904	W 76.107952



UNDER NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION LAW ARTICLE 145 (ENGINEERING), SECTION 7209 (2), IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT

PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

 $1''=100'$

SHEET NO:
PV-C.13.03



REV: 2

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

PROJECT TITLE:	
----------------	--

PROJECT LOCATION:

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

PROJ	422208
NUM:	

DES: M. ROSS

DWN: T. FIEBRA

CHK: M. ROSS

APV:	-
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DATE: 04/15/202

SCALE AT 24" x 36"

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2689-2696.

1"-100"

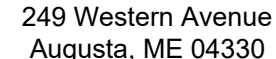
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PV-C 13 05

REV 3



PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

PROJECT TITLE:

PROJECT LOCATION:

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

PROJ	422208
NUM:	

DES: M. ROSS

DWN: T. FIEBRANZ

CHK: M. ROSS

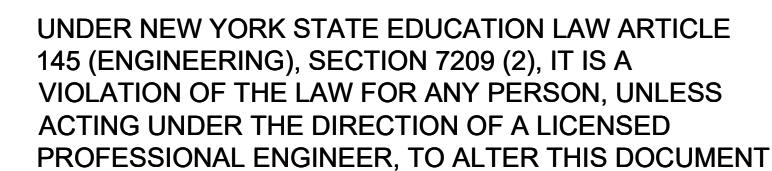
APV:	-
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DATE: 04/15/2021

SCALE AT 24" x 36":

 $1'' = 100'$

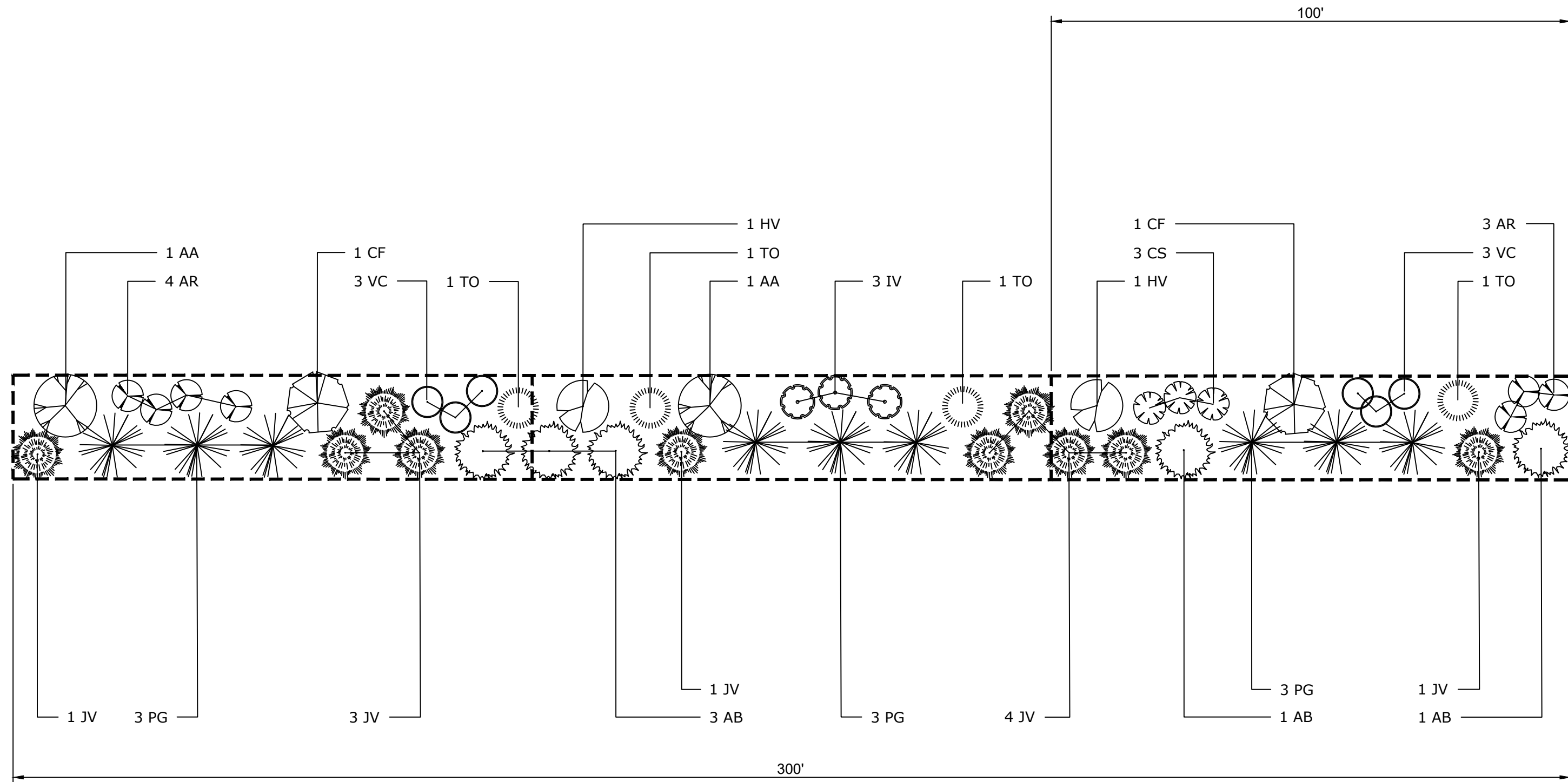
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PV-C.13.06

REV
2

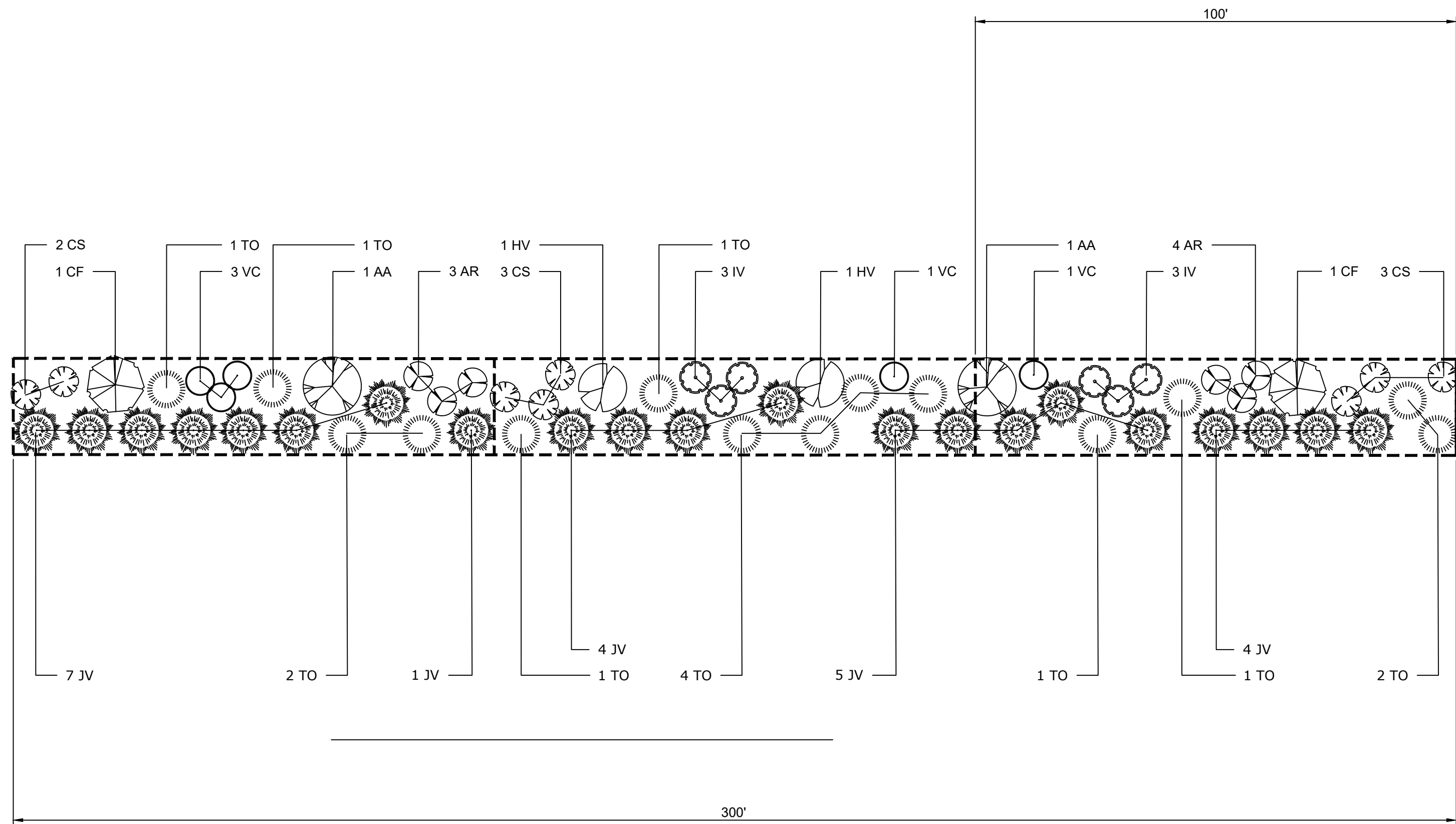
PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

AES Titleblock 22X34 v210319

- XREFs: \\d3923635\Planting Template Concepts and Schedules.dwg: PMM NY 100151.dwg



PLANTING TEMPLATE TYPE 1



ALTERNATIVE PLANTING TEMPLATE TYPE 2

UNDER NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION LAW ARTICLE 145 (ENGINEERING), SECTION 7209 (2), IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT

LEGEND

VISUAL MITIGATION PLANTING TEMPLATE - TYPE 1
LANDSCAPE PLANTING SCHEDULE (TYPICAL VISUAL BUFFER/SCREENING EFFORT)

DECIDUOUS AND EVERGREEN TREES

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME/ COMMON PLANT NAME	QUANTITY	SIZE	ROOT	MATURE HEIGHT
AA	AMELANCHIER ARBOREA DOWNY SHADBUSH	2	6'-8" HT. CLUMP	B&B	15'-20' HT.
AB	ABIES BALSAMEA BALSAM FIR	5	5'-6" HT.	B&B	40'-60' HT.
CF	CORNUS FLORIDA FLOWERING DOGWOOD	2	1" CAL. MIN.	B&B	15'-25' HT.
JV	JUNIPERUS VIRGINIANA EASTERN RED CEDAR	10	5'-6" HT.	B&B	40'-50' HT.
PG	PICEA GLAUCA WHITE SPRUCE	9	5'-6" HT.	B&B	40'-60' HT.
TO	THUJA OCCIDENTALIS NORTHERN WHITE CEDAR	4	5'-6" HT.	B&B	40'-50' HT.

SHRUBS

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME/ COMMON PLANT NAME	QUANTITY	SIZE	ROOT	MATURE HEIGHT
AR	ARONIA ARBUTIFOLIA RED CHOKEBERRY	7	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	7'-10' HT.
CS	CORNUS SERICEA RED TWIG DOGWOOD	3	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	7'-9' HT.
HV	HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA COMMON WITCH HAZEL	2	3'-4' HT.	B&B	15'-25' HT.
IV	ILEX VERTICILLATA COMMON WINTERBERRY	3	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	10'-12' HT.
VC	VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM Highbush Blueberry	6	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	6'-12' HT.

LEGEND

VISUAL MITIGATION PLANTING TEMPLATE - TYPE 2
LANDSCAPE PLANTING SCHEDULE (ALTERNATIVE VISUAL BUFFER/SCREENING EFFORT)

DECIDUOUS AND EVERGREEN TREES

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME/ COMMON PLANT NAME	QUANTITY	SIZE	ROOT	MATURE HEIGHT
AA	AMELANCHIER ARBOREA DOWNY SHADBUSH	2	6'-8' HT. CLUMP	B&B	15'-20' HT.
CF	CORNUS FLORIDA FLOWERING DOGWOOD	2	1" CAL. MIN.	B&B	15'-25' HT.
JV	JUNIPERUS VIRGINIANA EASTERN RED CEDAR	21	5'-6' HT.	B&B	40'-50' HT.
TO	THUJA OCCIDENTALIS NORTHERN WHITE CEDAR	14	5'-6' HT.	B&B	40'-50' HT.

SHRUBS

SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME/ COMMON PLANT NAME	QUANTITY	SIZE	ROOT	MATURE HEIGHT
AR	ARONIA ARBUTIFOLIA RED CHOKEBERRY	7	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	7'-10' HT.
CS	CORNUS SERICEA RED TWIG DOGWOOD	8	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	7'-9' HT.
HV	HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA COMMON WITCH HAZEL	2	3'-4" HT.	B&B	15'-25' HT.
IV	ILEX VERTICILLATA COMMON WINTERBERRY	6	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	10'-12' HT.
VC	VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM HIGHBUSH BLUEBERRY	5	24"-30" HT.	#3/5 CONT.	6'-12' HT.



PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

[illegible]

PROJECT TITLE:

RIVERSIDE SOLAR PROJECT

PROJECT LOCATION:

TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

LANDSCAPE NOTES AND DETAILS

■■■■

PROJ	422208
NUM:	

DES: M. ROSS

DWN: M BOSS

QUIK	M. BOSS
------	---------

SHR:	M. ROSS

APV:	-
------	---

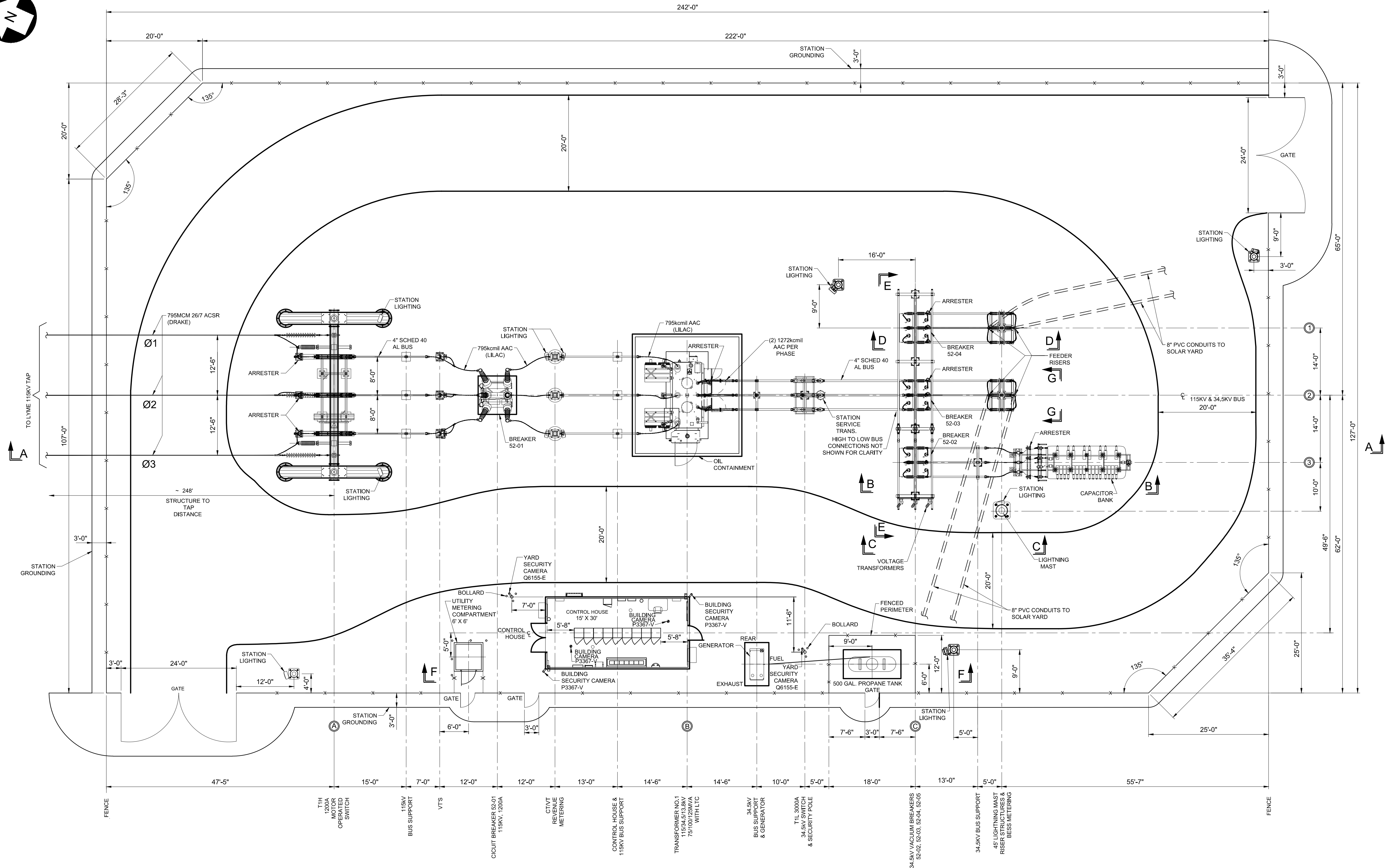
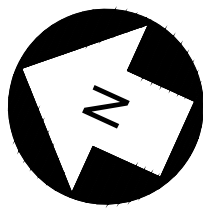
DATE: 04/15/2021

NONE

SHEET NO:
PV-C.14.02

REV: 2

UNDER NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION LAW ARTICLE 145 (ENGINEERING), SECTION 7209 (2), IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.



REFERENCE DRAWINGS:
1. HV-P.02.01 FOR SECTION A-A.
2. HV-P.02.02 FOR SECTIONS B-B THRU G-G.



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aes

2180 South 1300 East, Suite 600
Salt Lake City, UT 84106-2749
(801) 579-3500



249 Western Avenue
Augusta, ME 04330

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08/05/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
2	09/10/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT

PROJECT TITLE:

**RIVERSIDE SOLAR
COLLECTION
SUBSTATION
115KV-34.5KV**

PROJECT LOCATION:

**TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY**

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

**GENERAL
ARRANGEMENT**

**OVERALL ELECTRICAL
PLAN**

PROJ
NUM: 422208

DES: D. FARRELL

DWN: D. FARRELL

CHK: C. PASCALE

APV: C. PASCALE

DATE: 03/22/21

SCALE AT 22" x 34":



3/32" = 1'-0"

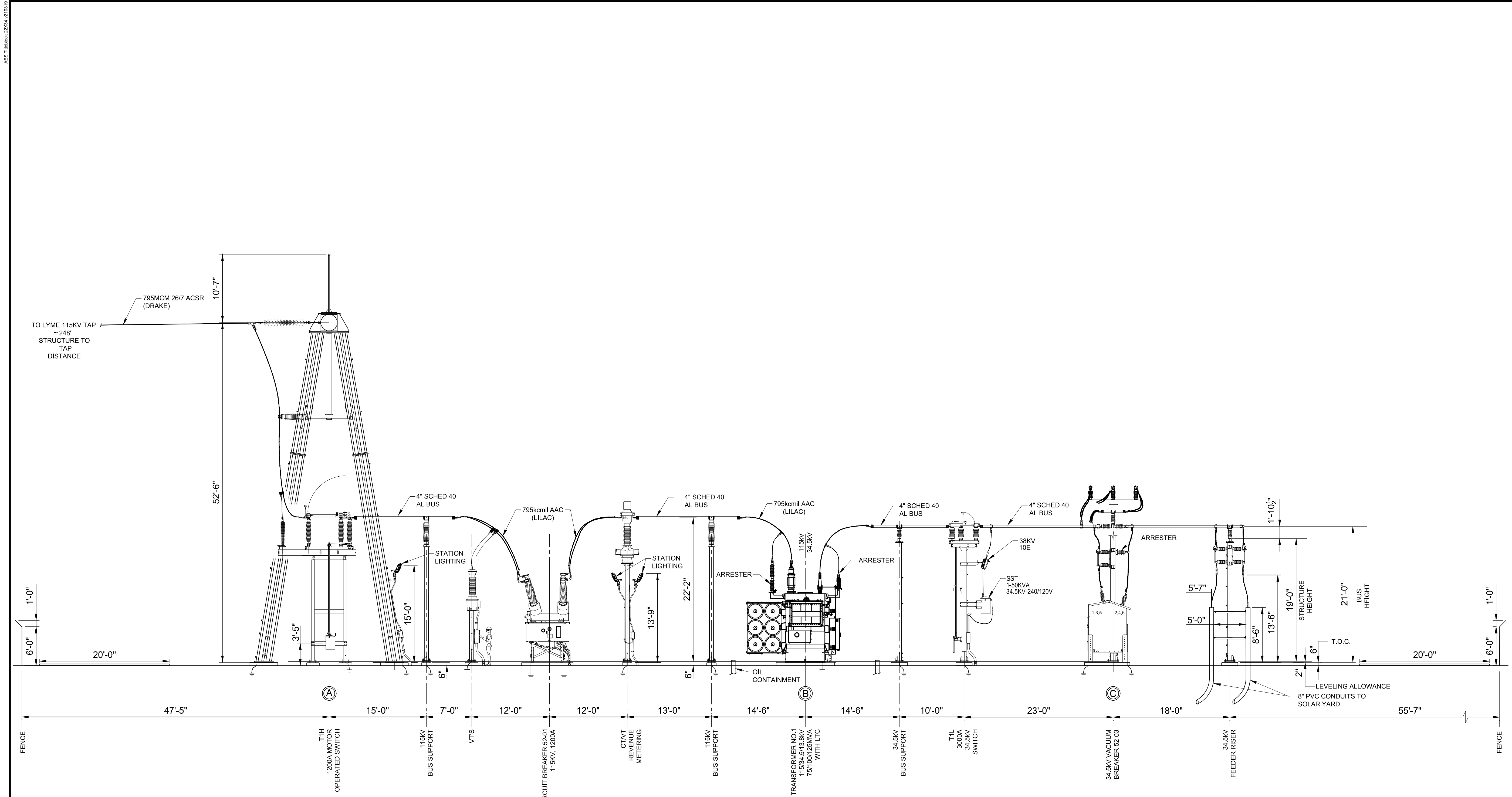
SHEET NO:

HV-P.01.01

REV:

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AES Titleblock 22x34 v210319



SECTION A-A

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Augusta, ME 04330

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08/05/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
2	09/10/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT

PROJECT TITLE:

**RIVERSIDE SOLAR
COLLECTION
SUBSTATION
115KV-34.5KV**

PROJECT LOCATION:

**TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY**

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

**ELECTRICAL
EQUIPMENT
ELEVATIONS**

SECTION A-A

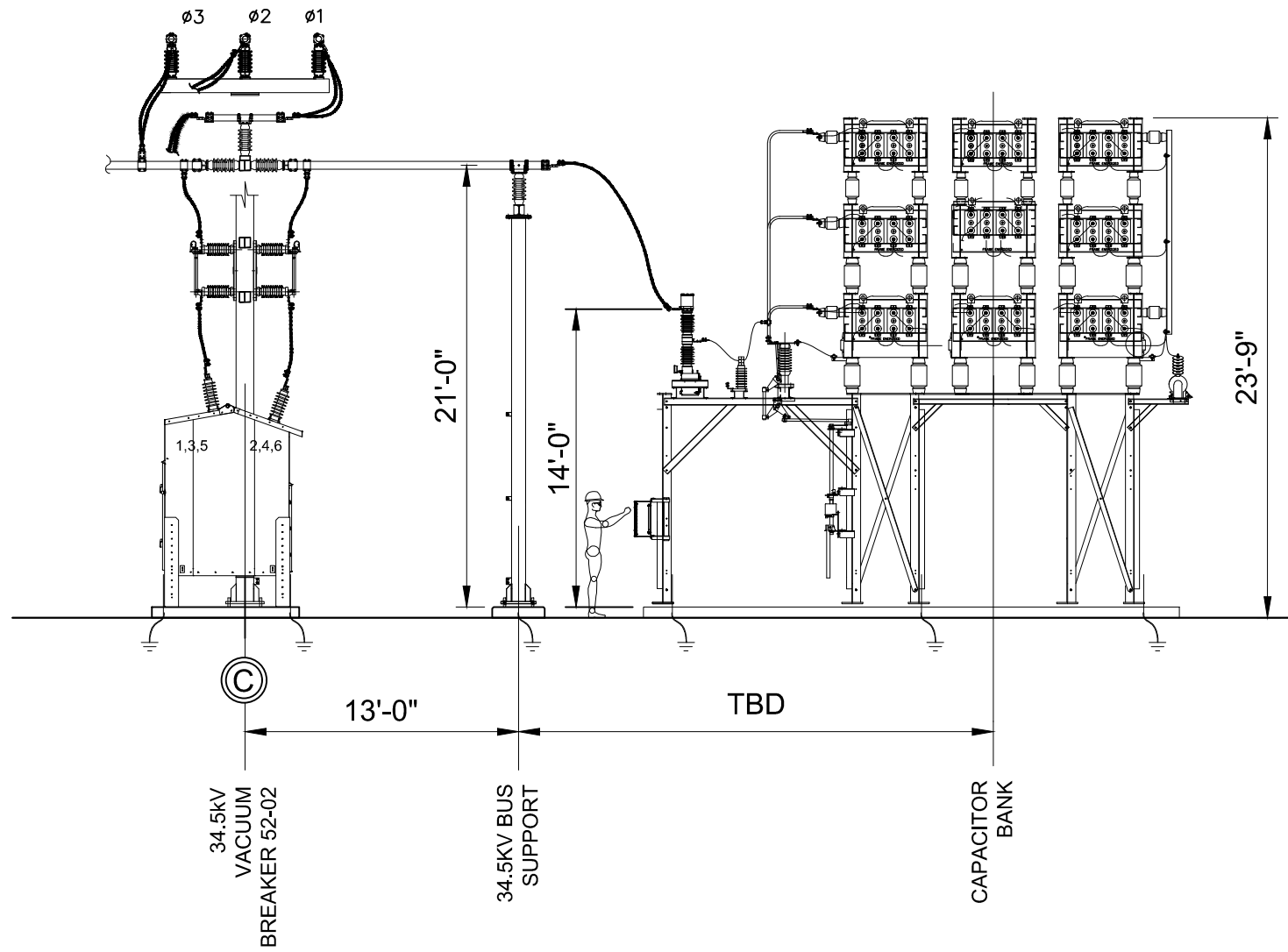
PROJ NUM:	422208
DES:	D. FARRELL
DWN:	D.FARRELL
CHK:	C. PASCALE
APV:	C. PASCALE
DATE:	03/22/2021

SCALE AT 22" x 34":
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1/8" = 1'-0"

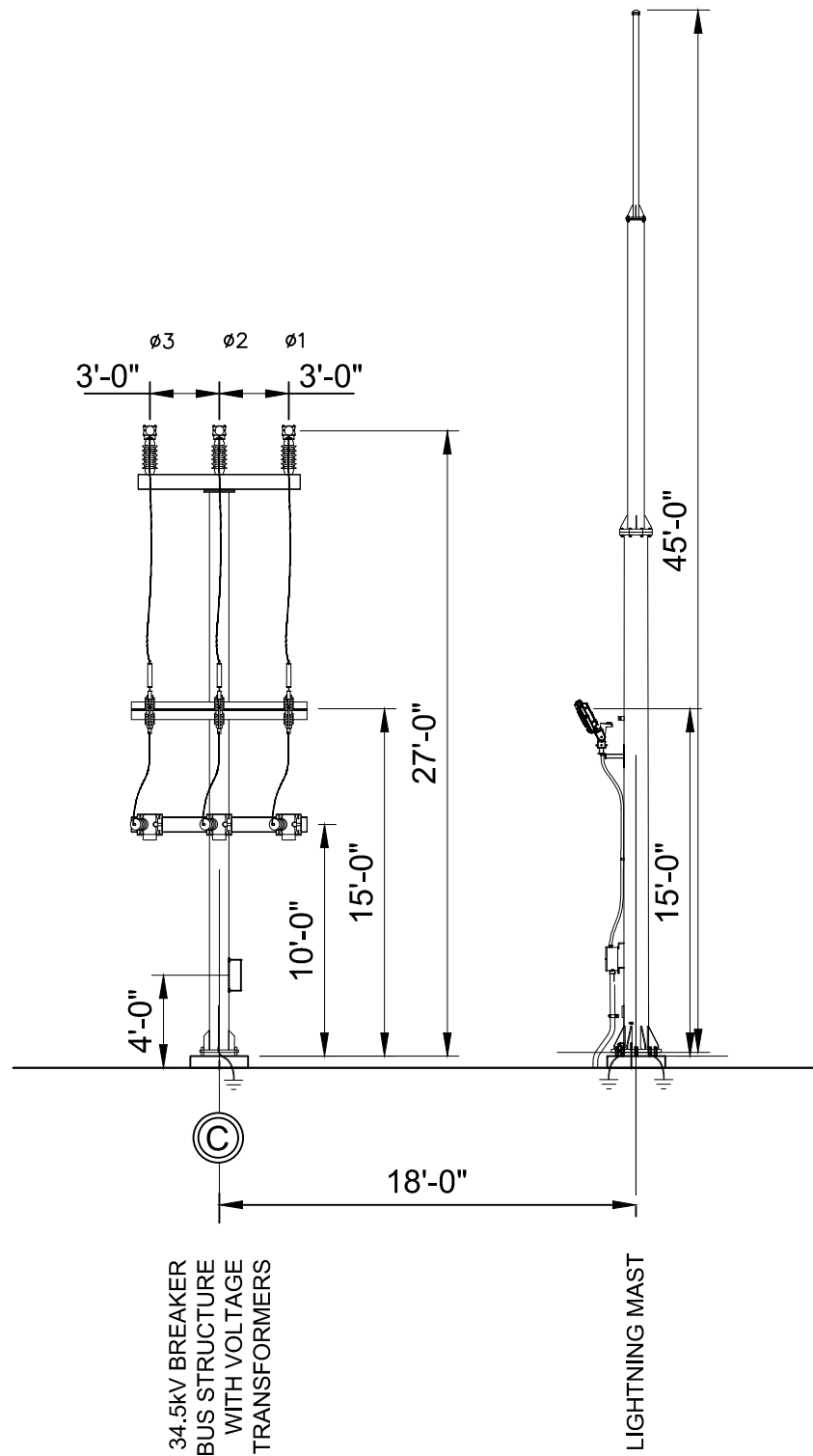
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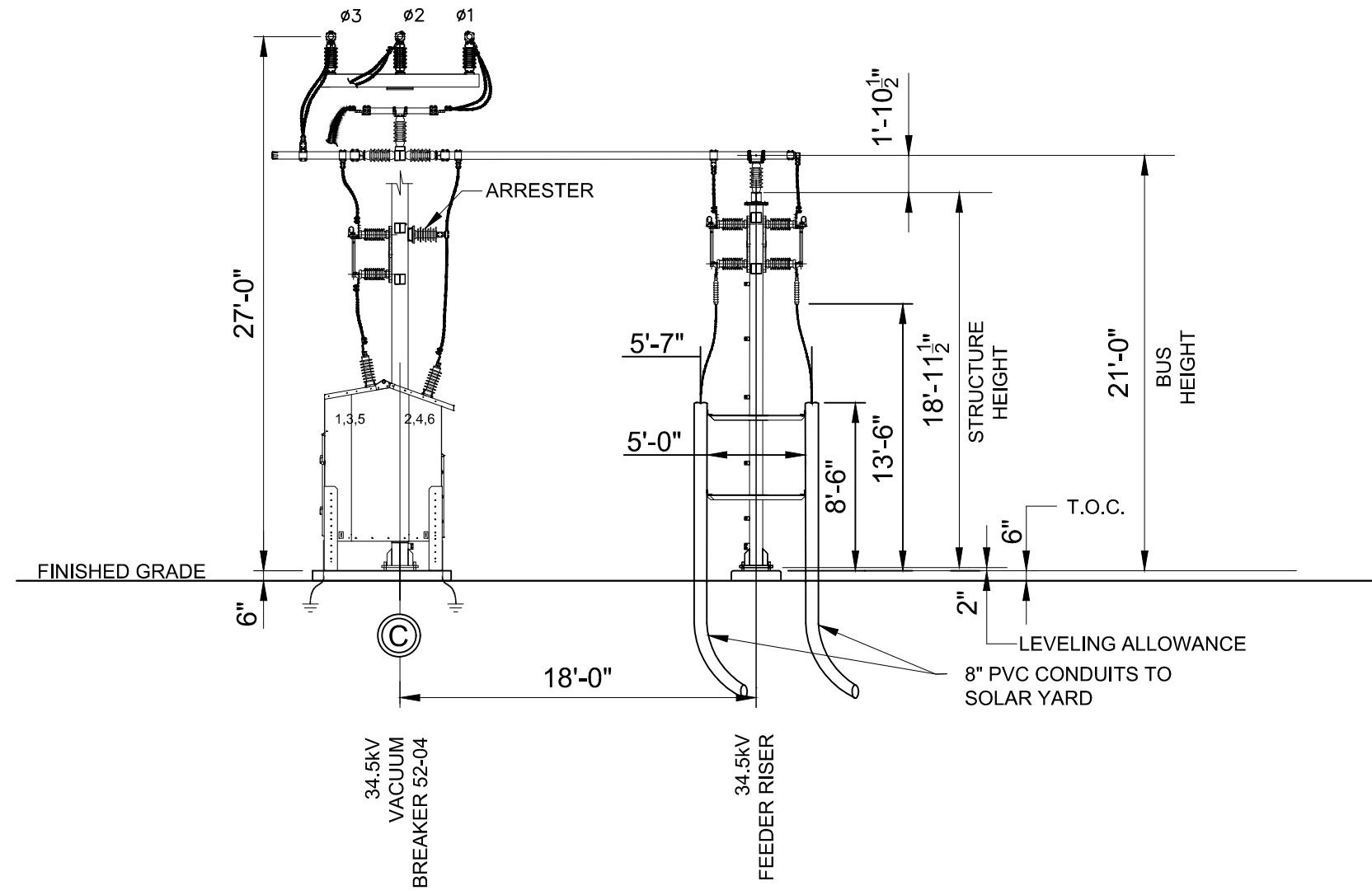
UNDER NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION LAW ARTICLE 145 (ENGINEERING), SECTION 7209 (2), IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.



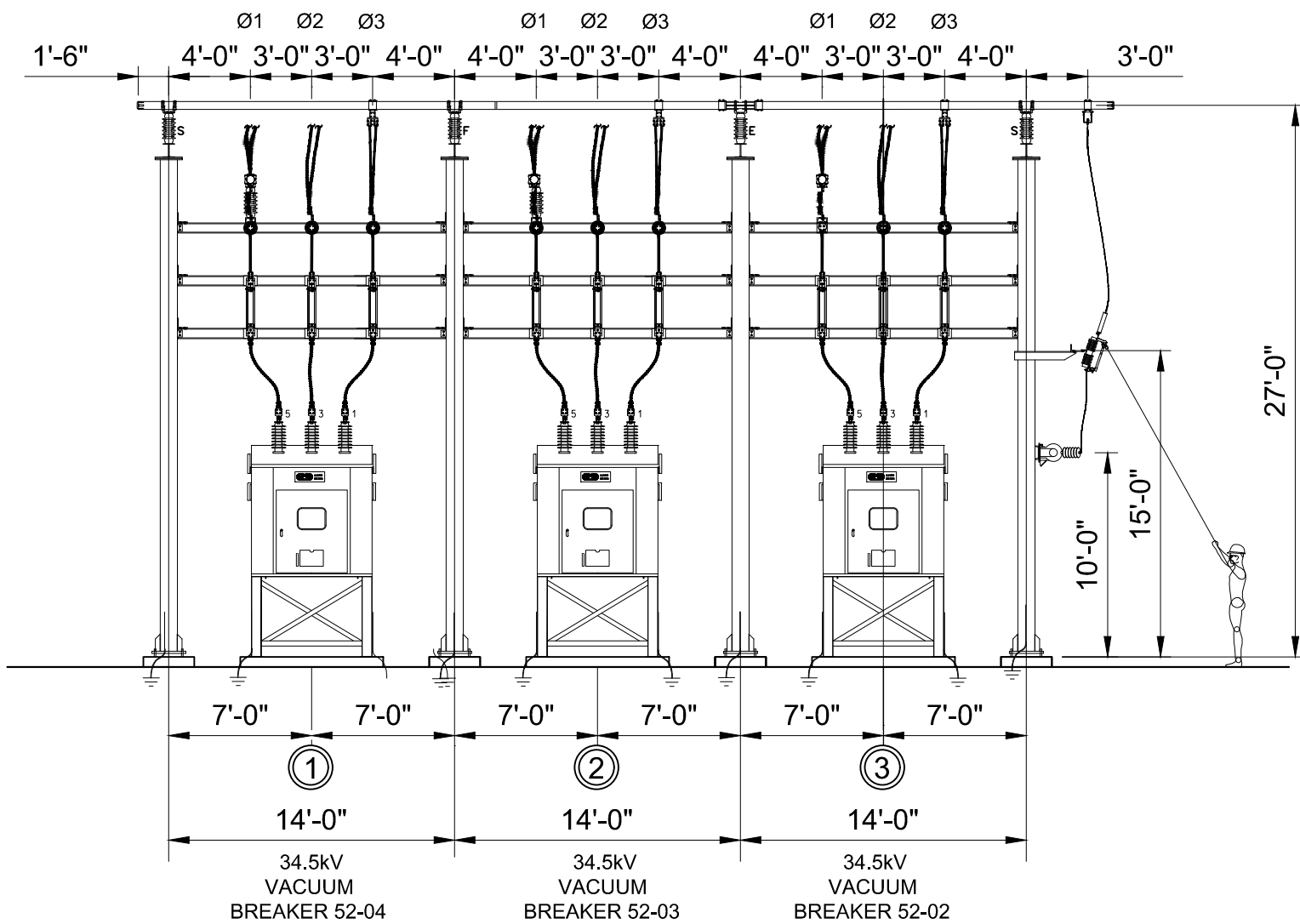
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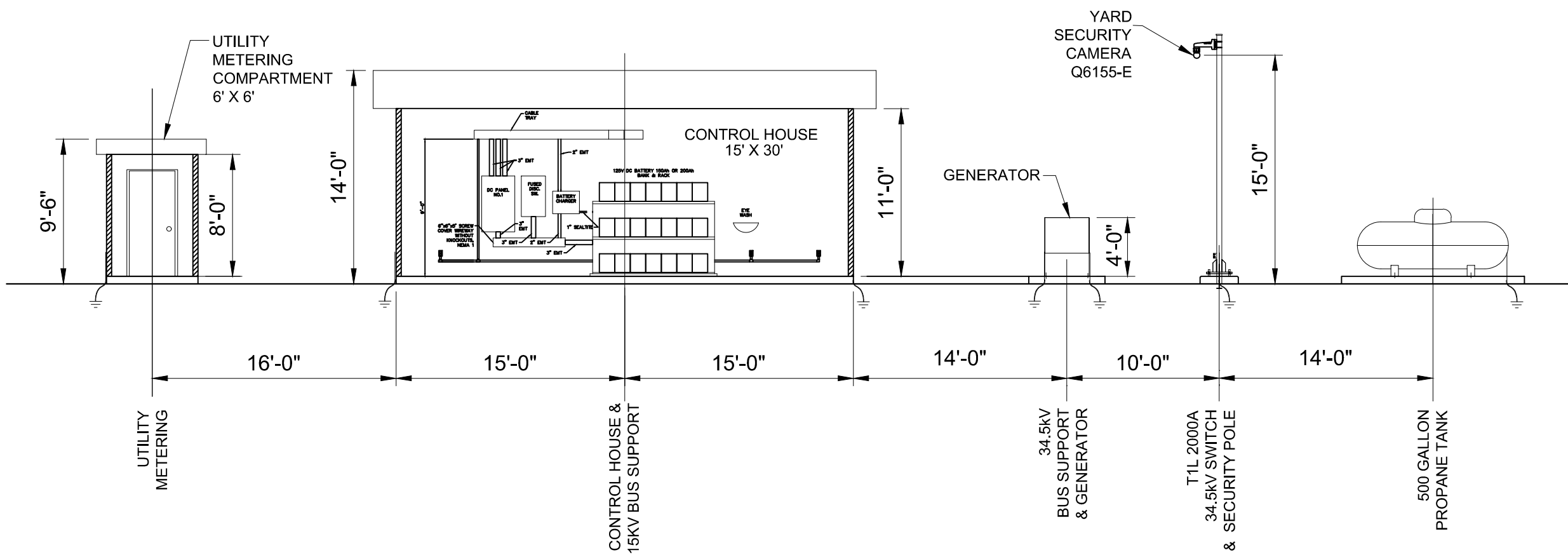
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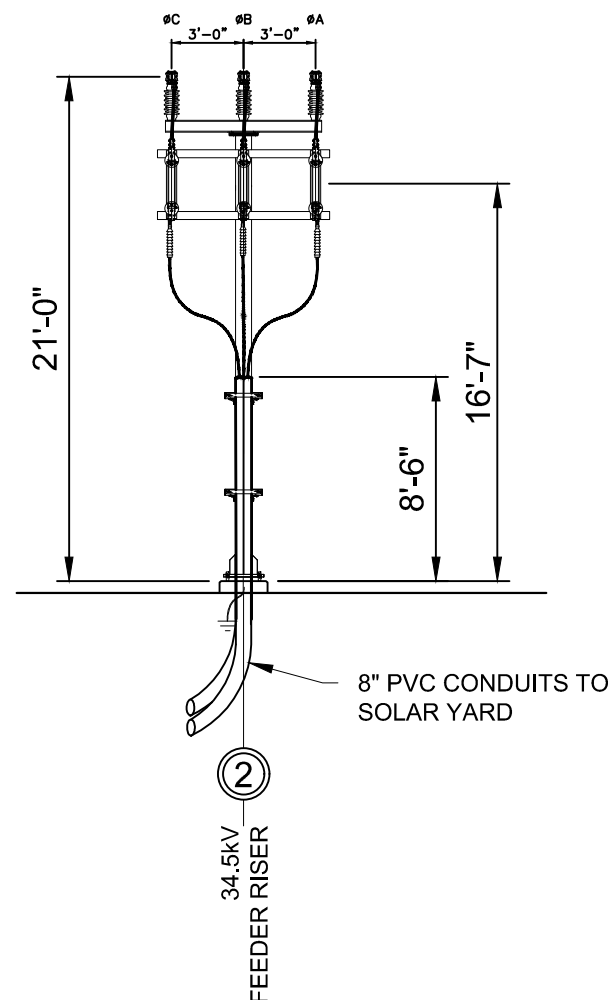
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SECTION E-E



SECTION F-F



SECTION G-G



PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

2180 South 1300 East, Suite 600
Salt Lake City, UT 84106-2749
(801) 679-3500

249 Western Avenue
Augusta, ME 04330

PE STAMP:

KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08/05/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
2	09/10/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT

PROJECT TITLE:

RIVERSIDE SOLAR
COLLECTION
SUBSTATION
115KV-34.5KV

PROJECT LOCATION:

TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

ELECTRICAL
EQUIPMENT
ELEVATIONS

SECTIONS B-B, C-C
D-D, E-E, F-F, G-G

PROJ
NUM: 422208

DES: D. FARRELL

DWN: D. FARRELL

CHK: C. PASCALE

APV: C. PASCALE

DATE: 03/22/2021

SCALE AT 22" x 34":

1/8" = 1'-0"

SHEET NO: HV-P.02.02

REV: 2

AES Titleblock 22034 v210319
PLOTTER: 9/8/2021 5:15 PM
C:\Users\jpascale\OneDrive\Documents\HV-P.13.01 LIGHTING PLAN.dwg

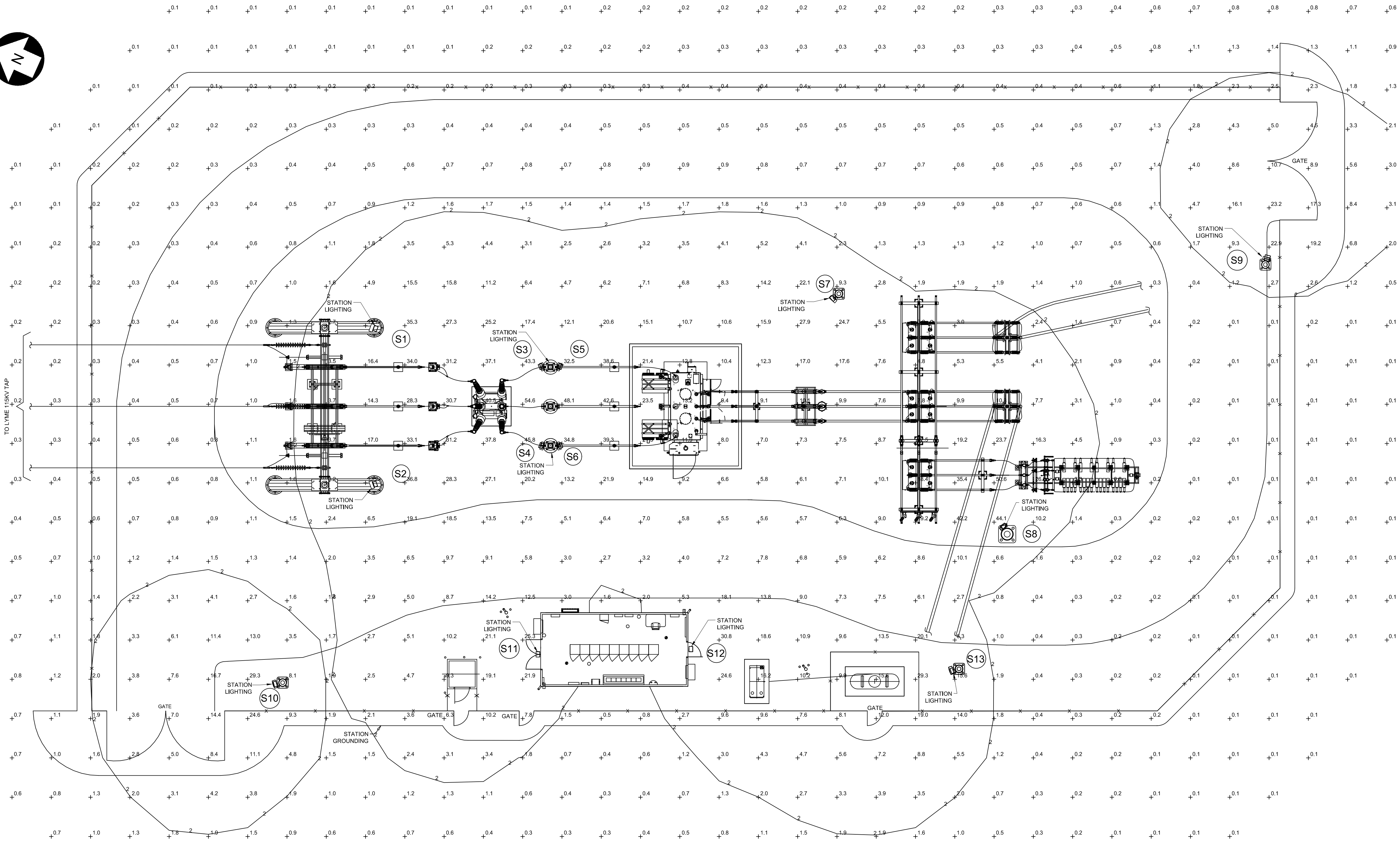
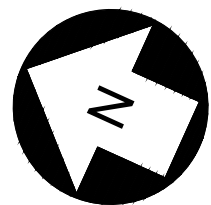


TABLE 1 - LIGHTING FIXTURE SCHEDULE								
FIXTURE						LAMP	PHOTO-ELECTRIC CONTROL	
TYPE	WATTAGE	LIGHT SOURCE	VOLTAGE	WEIGHT (LBS)	LUMENS	NEMA CLASS	MANUFACTURER (GE) ITEM #	MANUFACTURER ITEM #
A1	25W	LED	120V	9.5	2,900	N/A	GE EVOLVE EWS31A7D140	N/A
A3	150W	LED	120V	26	18,800	7X6	GE EVOLVE EFH101AA76740	N/A
A5	297W	LED	120V	26	37,800	7X6	GE EVOLVE EFH101EE76740	N/A

FIXTURE SCHEDULE			
LIGHT NO.	TYPE	WATTAGE	VOLTAGE
S1	A3	150W	120VAC
S2	A3	150W	120VAC
S3	A3	150W	120VAC
S4	A3	150W	120VAC
S5	A3	150W	120VAC
S6	A3	150W	120VAC
S7	A3	150W	120VAC
S8	A5	297W	120VAC
S9	A3	150W	120VAC
S10	A3	150W	120VAC
S11	A3	150W	120VAC
S12	A3	150W	120VAC
S13	A3	150W	120VAC

- NOTES:
- STATION LIGHTING IS COMPRISED OF (12) 150W, 120V AC LED AND (1) 297 W, 120V AC LED FLOODLIGHTS.
 - LIGHTS TO BE MOUNTED ON INDICATED STRUCTURES 15' ABOVE FINISHED GRADE.
 - YARD CONTOUR IS 2 FT CANDLES (F.C.) AVERAGE FOR THIS STATION. 2 FT CANDLES IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 22 LUMENS PER SQUARE METER.

AVERAGE = 4.8 F.C.
MAX = 54.8 F.C.
MIN = 0.1 F.C.



PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

UNDER NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION LAW ARTICLE 145 (ENGINEERING), SECTION 7209 (2), IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.

aes

2180 South 1300 East, Suite 600
Salt Lake City, UT 84106-2749
(801) 579-3500



249 Western Avenue
Augusta, ME 04330

PE STAMP:



KEY PLAN:

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08/05/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
2	09/10/2021	ISSUED FOR PERMIT

PROJECT TITLE:

**RIVERSIDE SOLAR
COLLECTION
SUBSTATION
115KV-34.5KV**

PROJECT LOCATION:

**TOWNS OF LYME &
BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON CO., NY**

SHEET TITLE & DESCRIPTION:

**GENERAL
ARRANGEMENT**

LIGHTING PLAN

PROJ NUM: 422208

DES: D. FARRELL

DWN: D. FARRELL

CHK: C. PASCALE

APV: C. PASCALE

DATE: 04/15/2021

SCALE AT 22" x 34":



3/32" = 1'-0"

SHEET NO:

HV-P.13.01

REV:

2

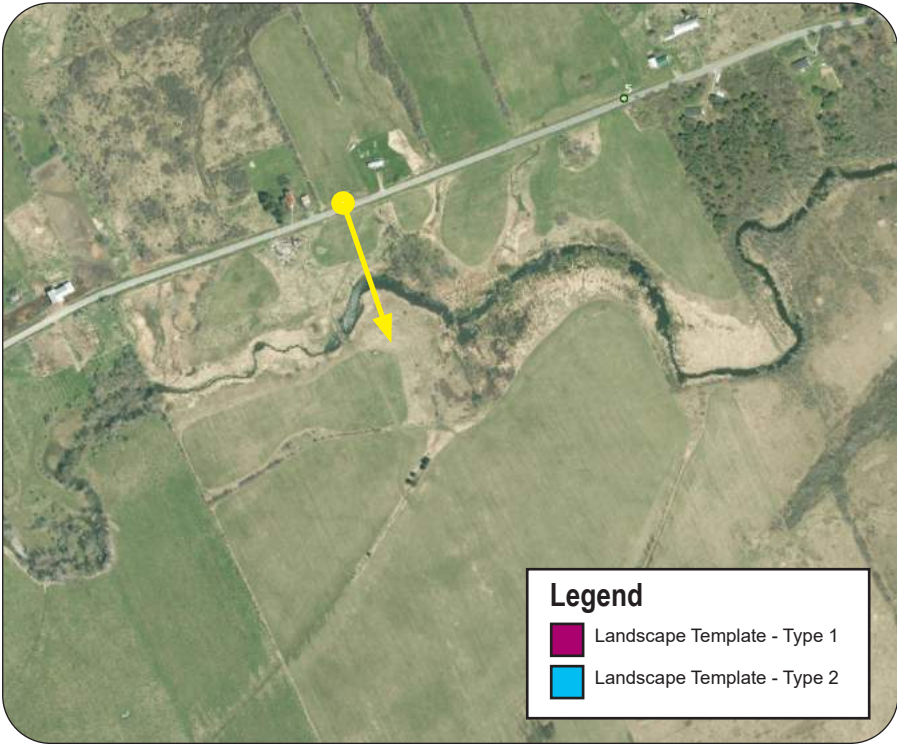
Attachment 5: Photo Simulations and Line-of-Sight Profiles

Existing Conditions

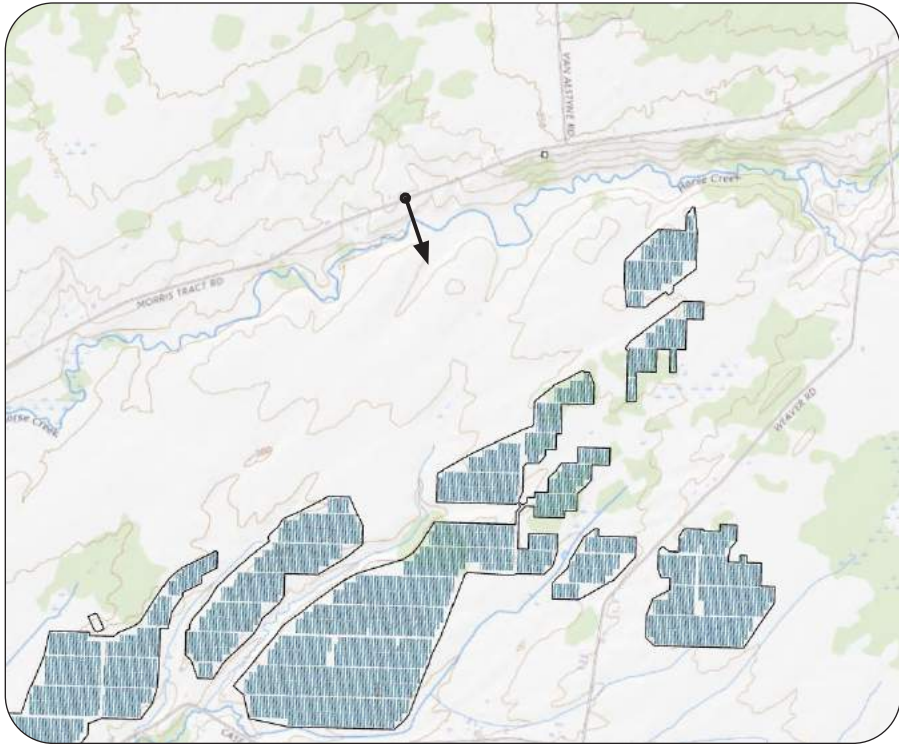


SSE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.08176 -76.08094
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	324
Distance to Fence Line	.66 Mile
Direction of View	South Southeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 11:28 AM



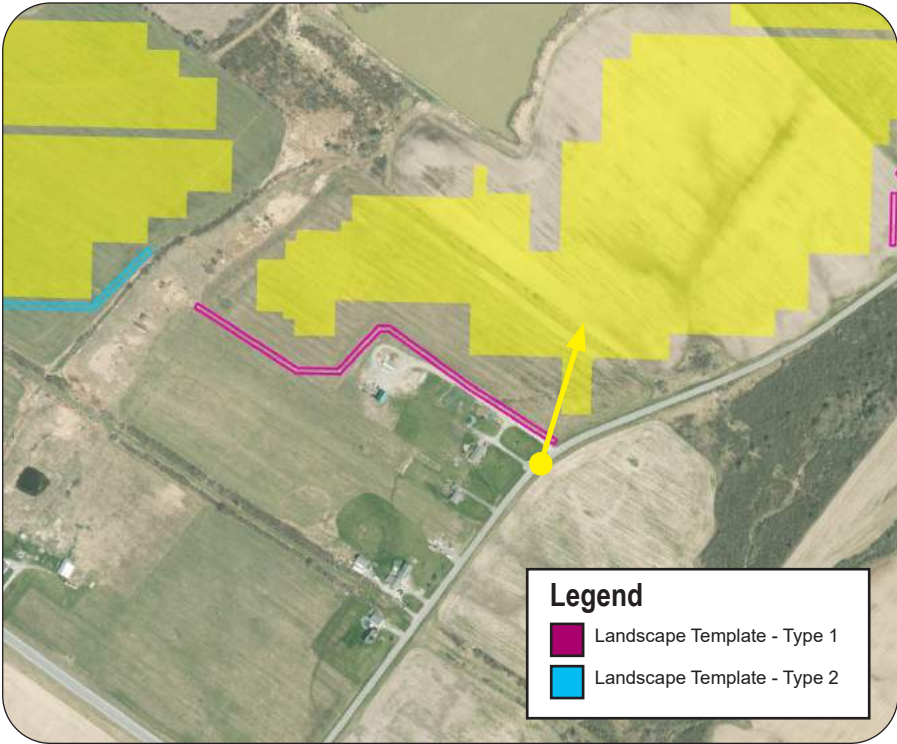


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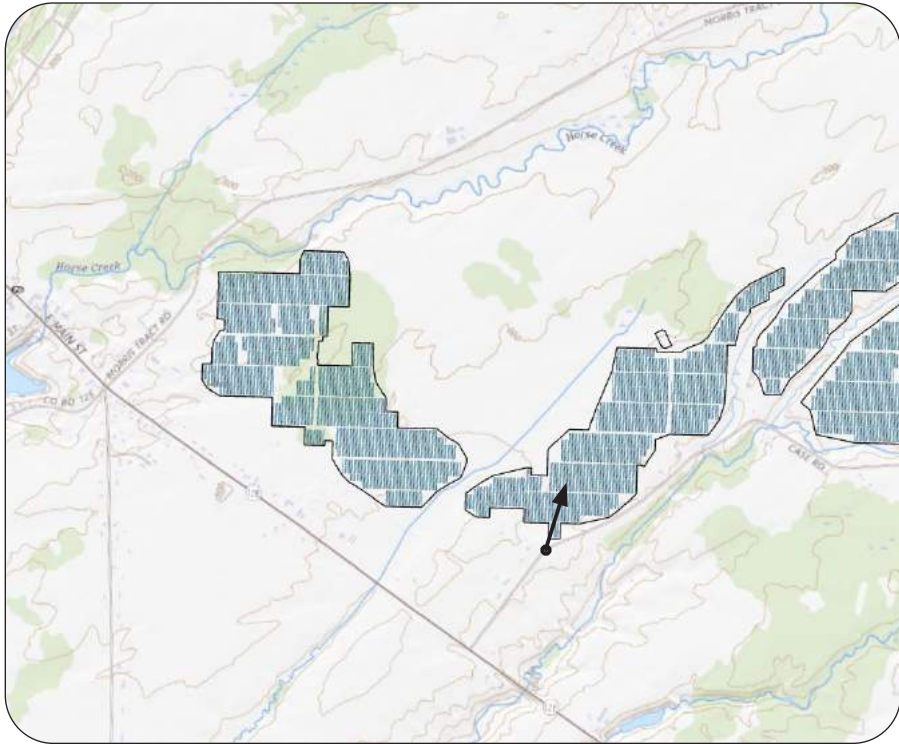


NNE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.05783 -76.10225
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	293
Distance to Fence Line	200 ft
Direction of View	North Northeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 1:21 PM







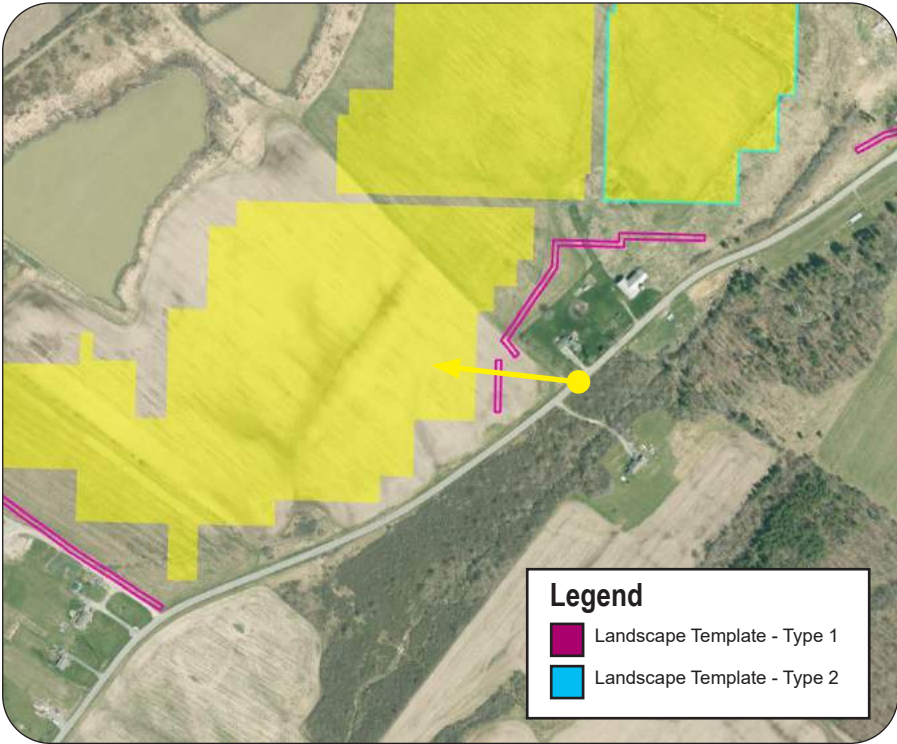


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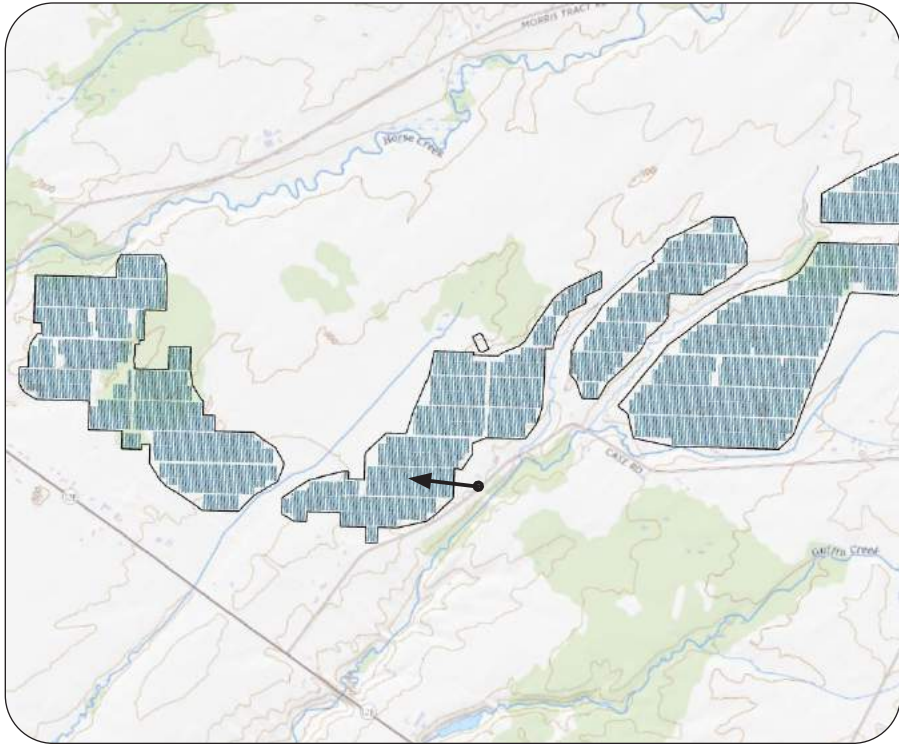


W

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.06045 -76.09626
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	285
Distance to Fence Line	366 ft
Direction of View	West
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 1:37 PM







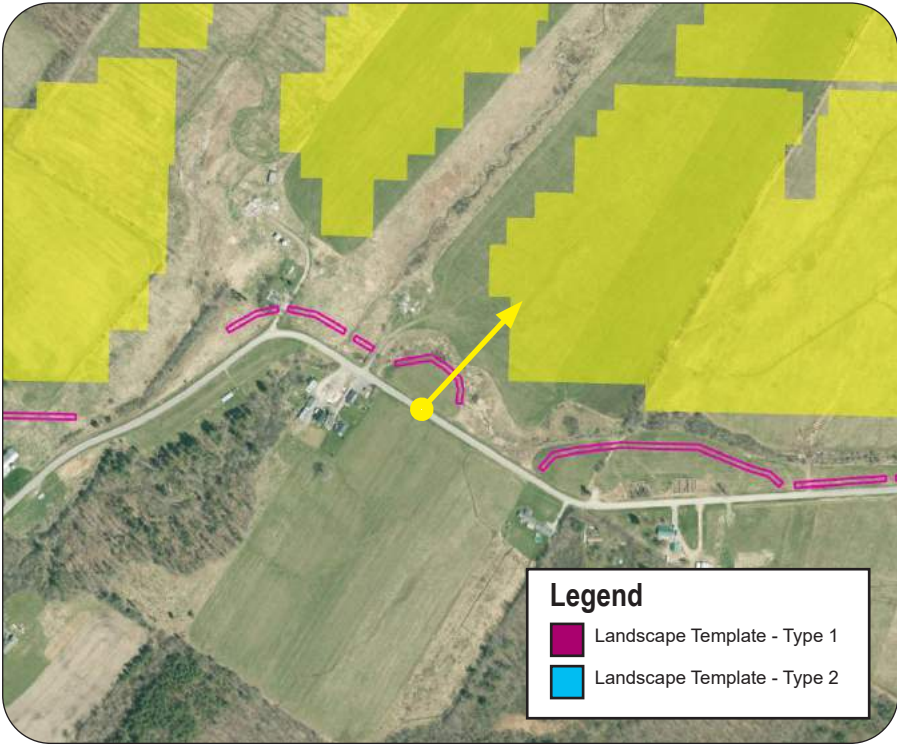


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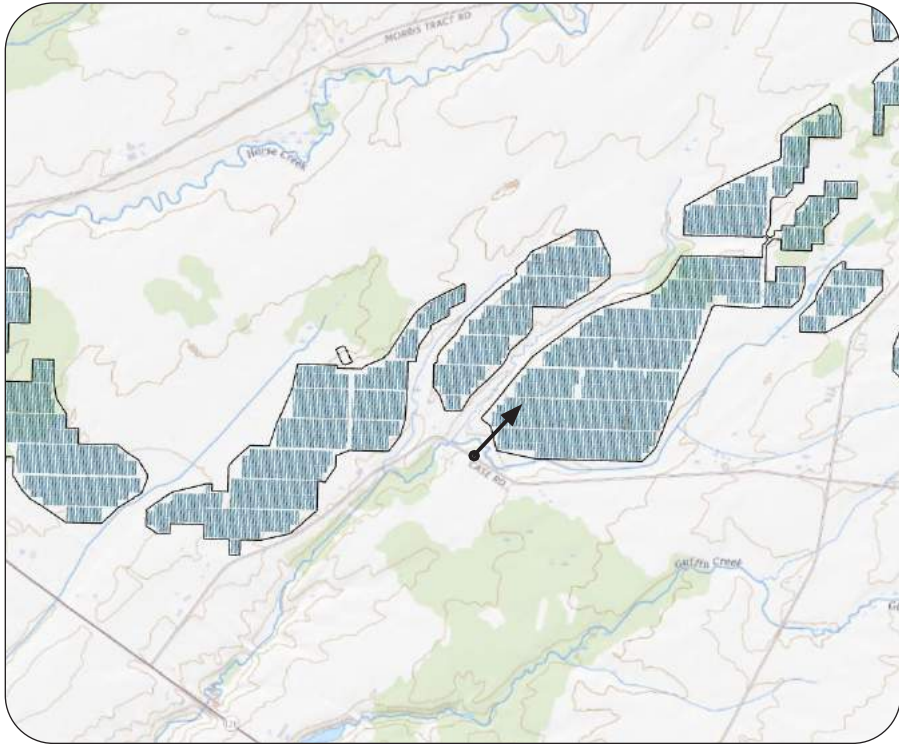


NE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.06206 -76.08961
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	293
Distance to Fence Line	293 ft
Direction of View	Northeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 1:59 PM







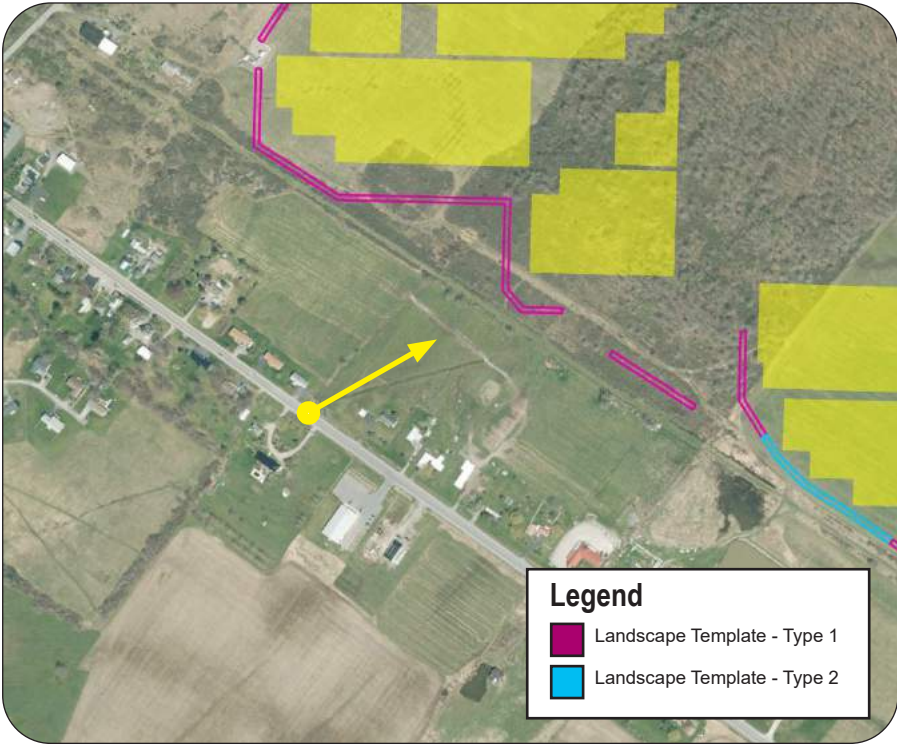


Existing Conditions

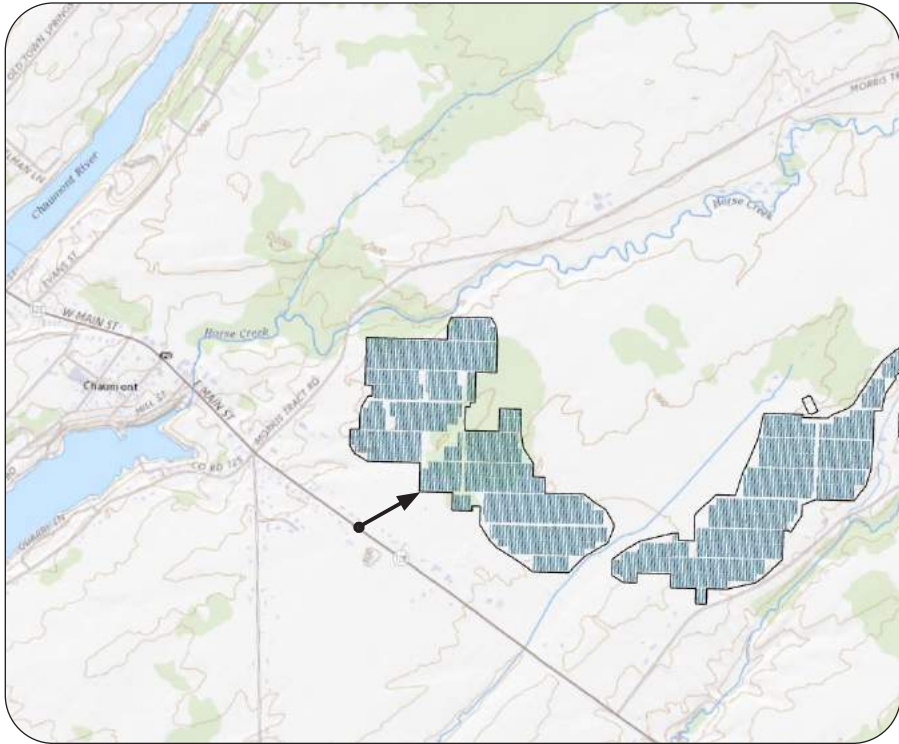


NE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.06077 -76.11964
Town/Village	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	304
Distance to Fence Line	983 ft
Direction of View	Northeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 12:52 PM







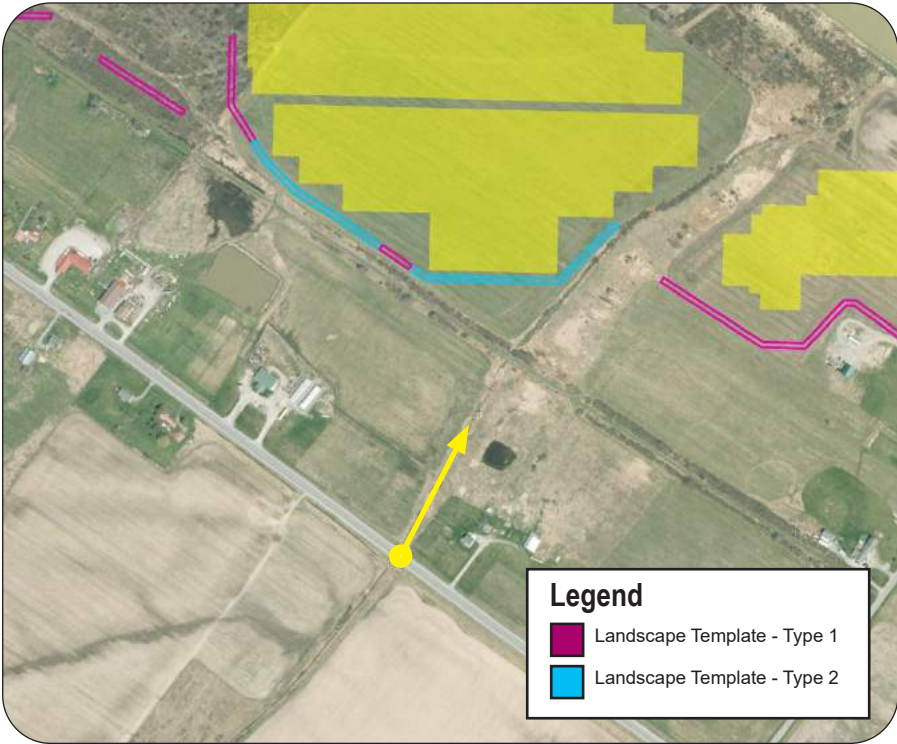


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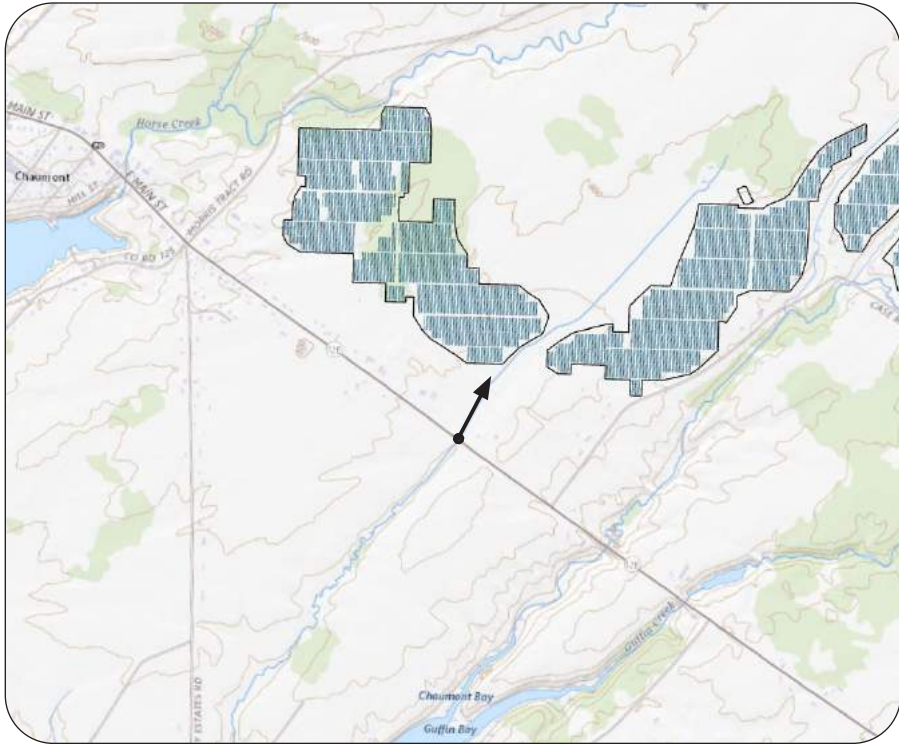


NNE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.05643 -76.11098
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	291
Distance to Fence Line	.19 Mile
Direction of View	North Northeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 1:03 PM







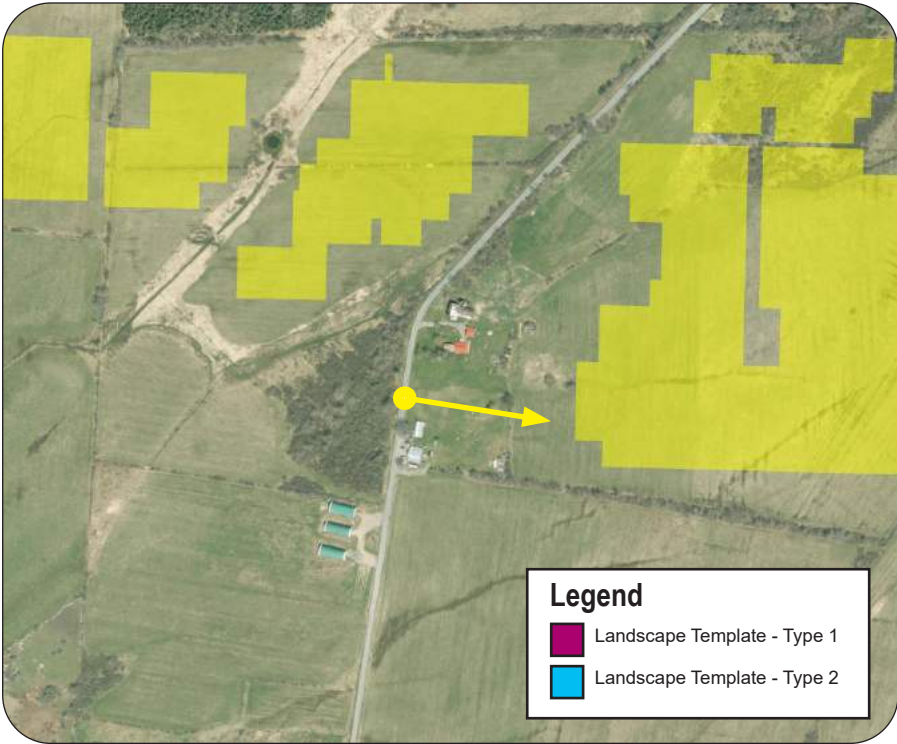


Existing Conditions

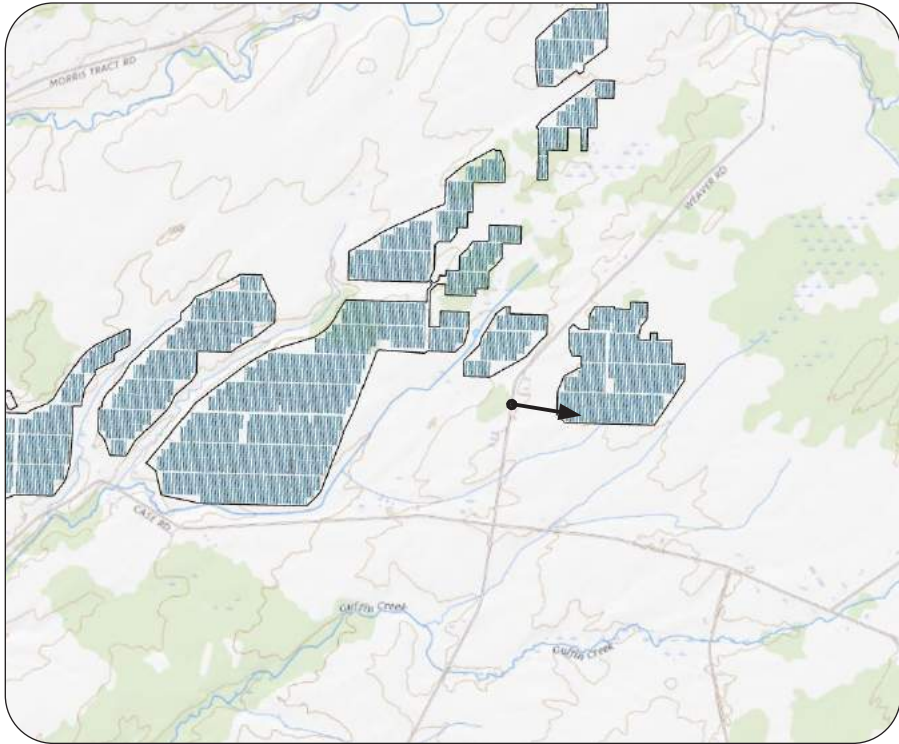


ESE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.06605 76.07043
Town	Brownville
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	324
Distance to Fence Line	596 ft
Direction of View	East Southeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 10:27 AM



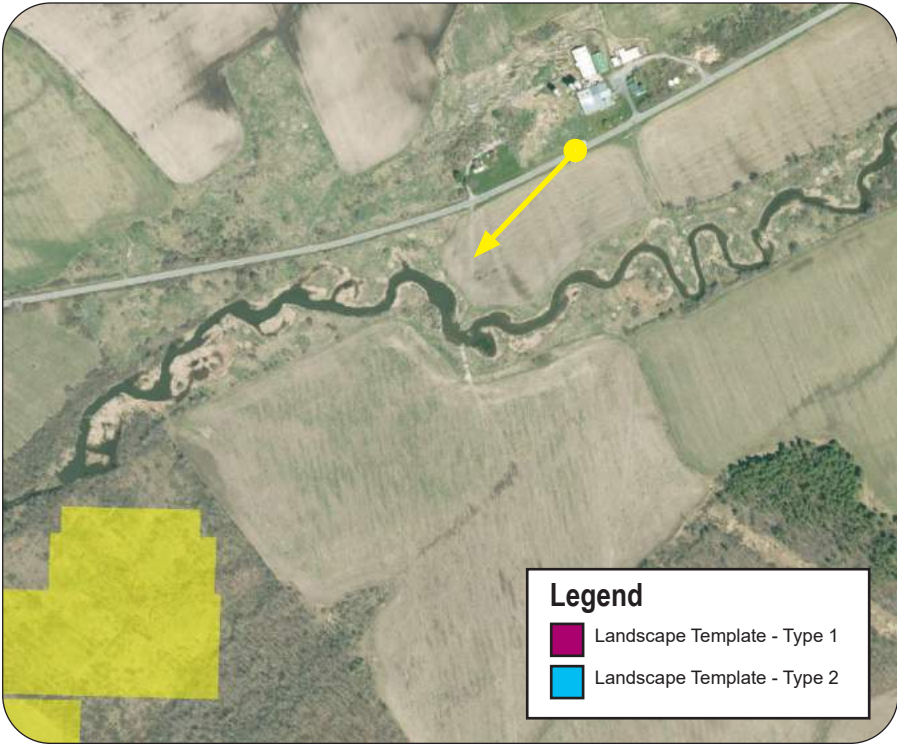


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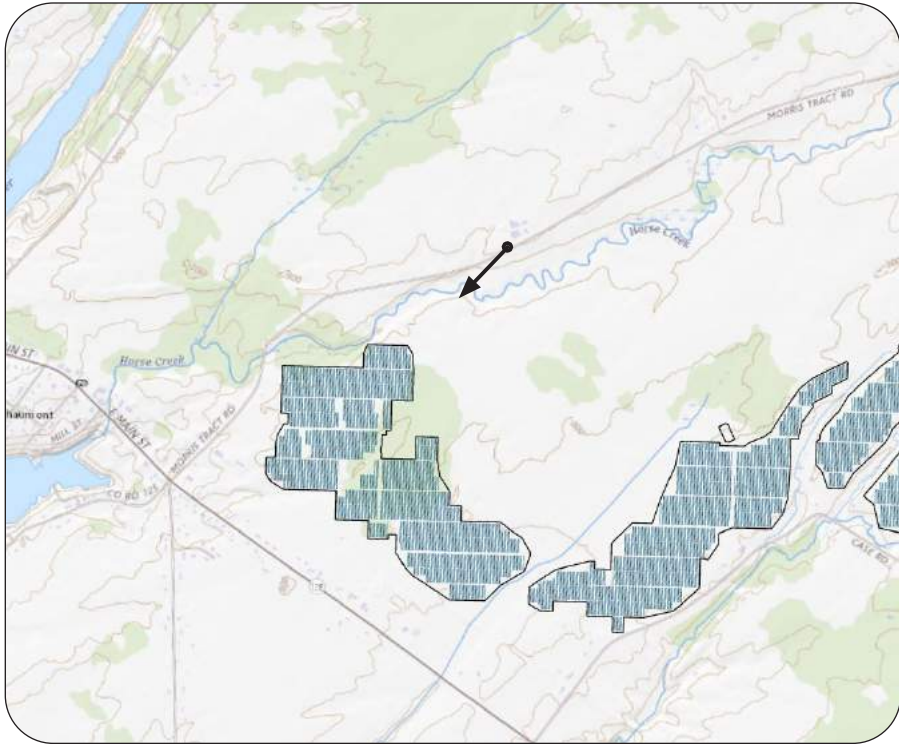


SW

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.07247 -76.10789
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	315
Distance to Fence Line	.36 Mile
Direction of View	Southwest
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 11:53 AM







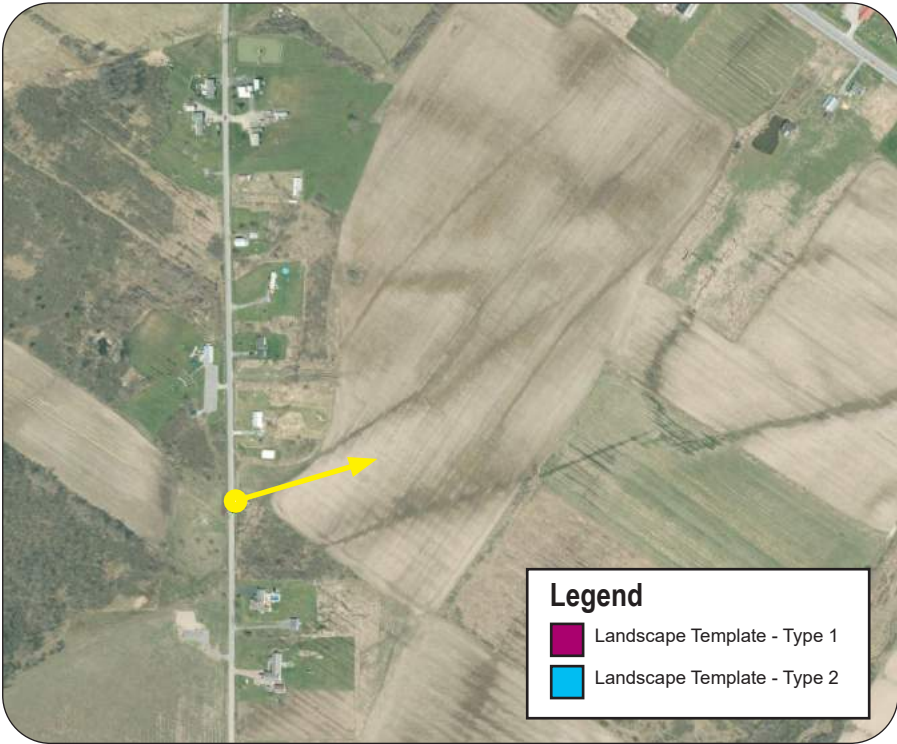


Existing Conditions



ENE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map

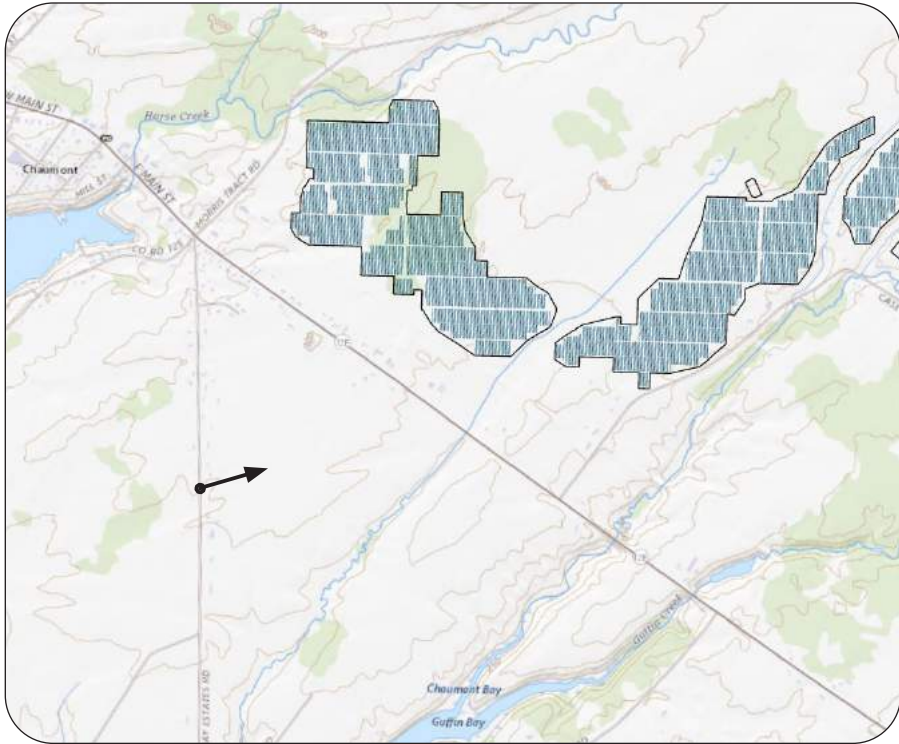


Legend

Landscape Template - Type 1

Landscape Template - Type 2

Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.05417 -76.12462
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	296
Distance to Fence Line	.69 Mile
Direction of View	East Northeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 12:42 PM









Existing Conditions

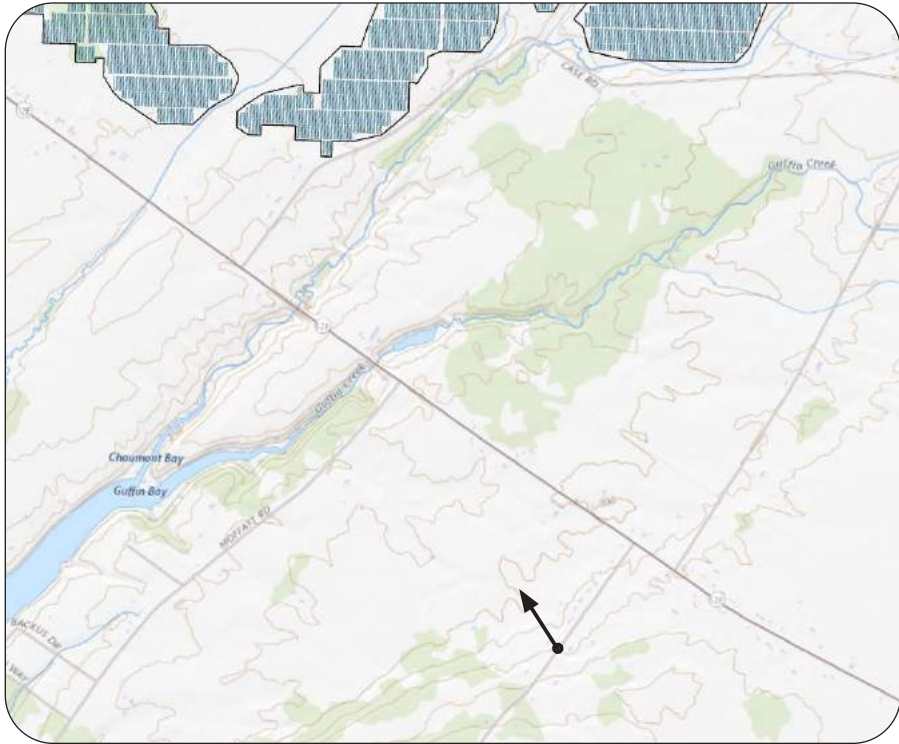


NW

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.04017 -76.08946
Town	Brownville
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	326
Distance to Fence Line	1.37 Miles
Direction of View	Northwest
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 3:19 PM







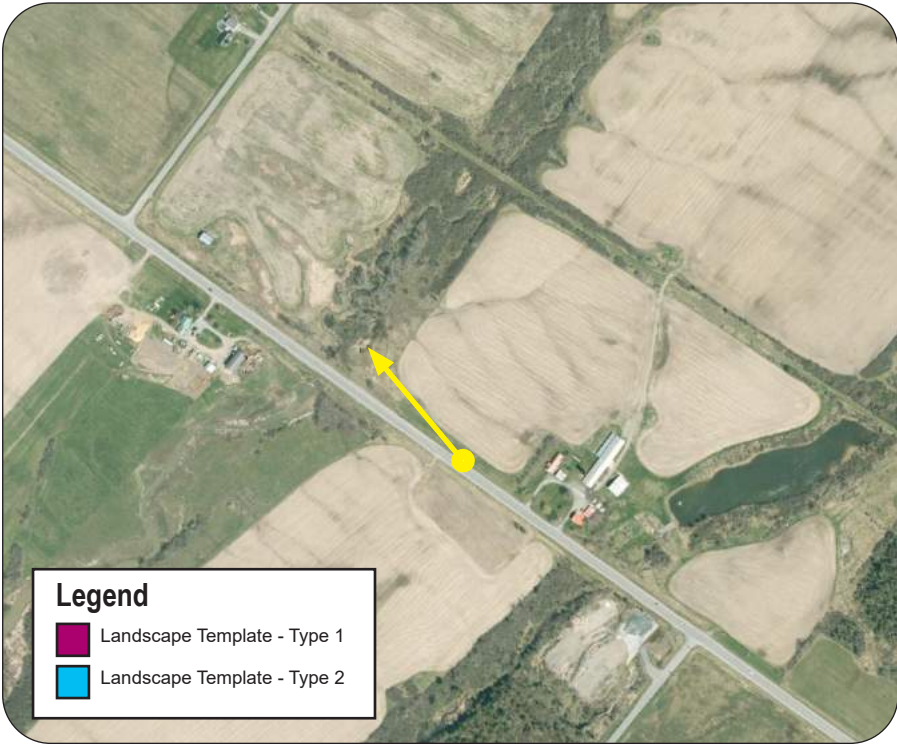


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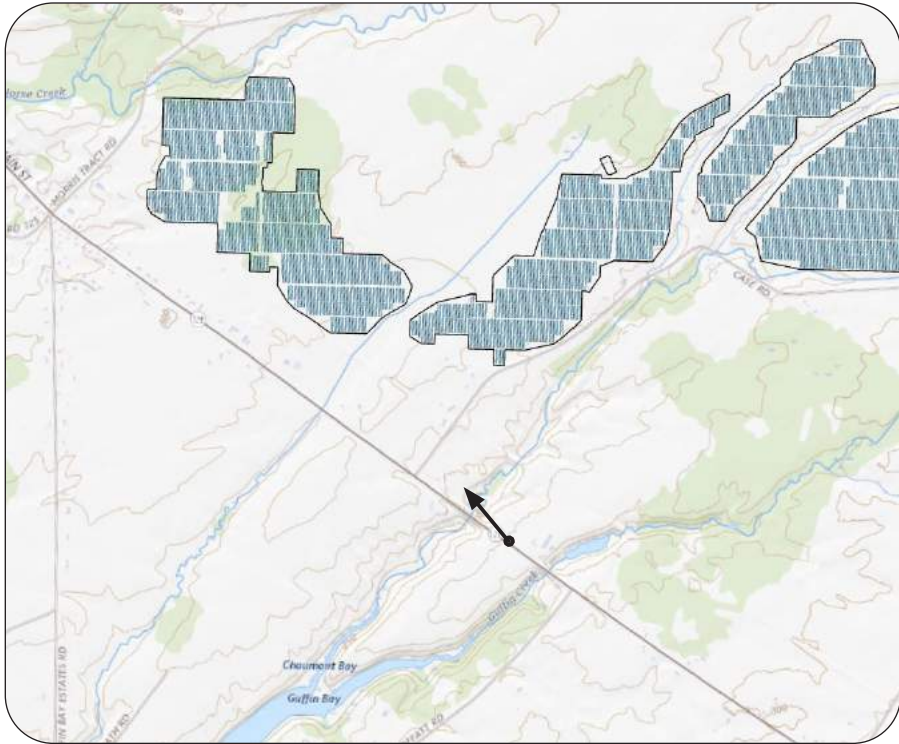


NW

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	44.05171 -76.10120
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	287
Distance to Fence Line	.65 Mile
Direction of View	Northwest
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	3/19/2021, 3:29 PM







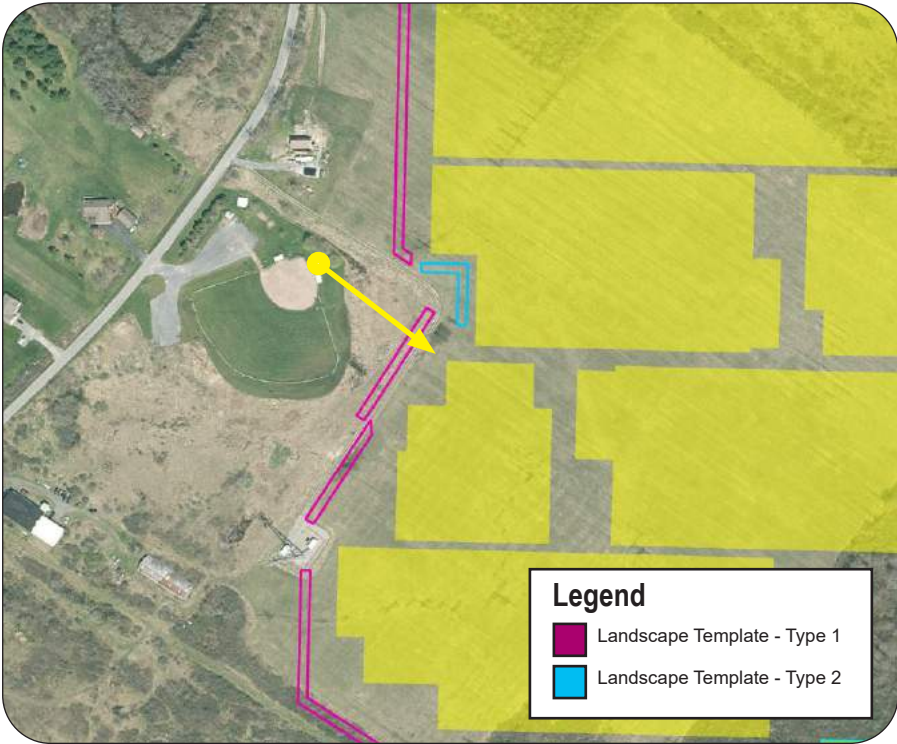


Existing Conditions

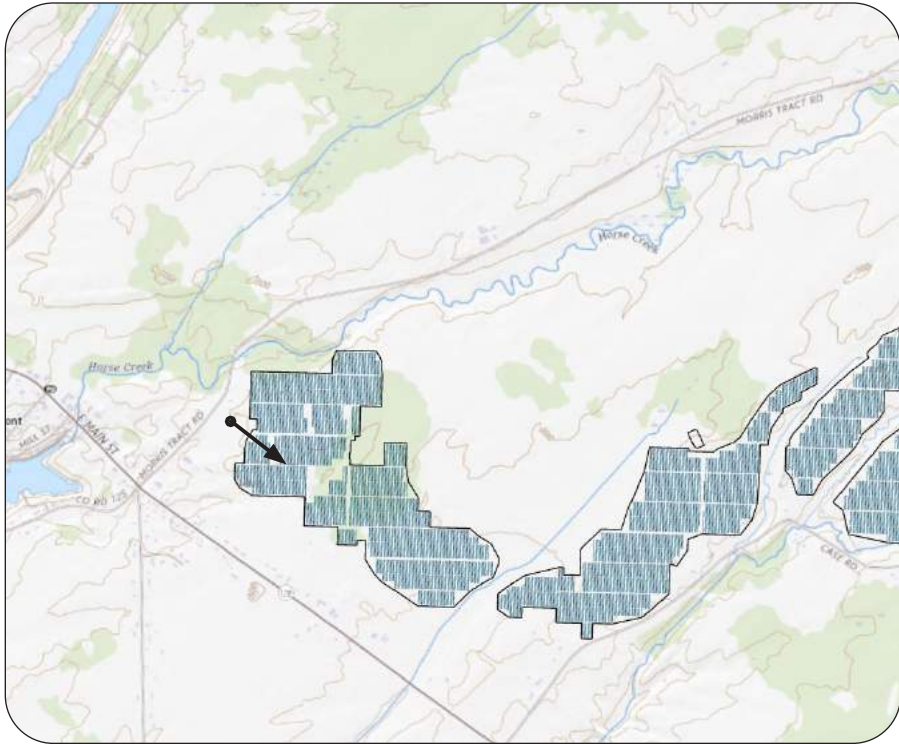


SE

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Location Topographic Map



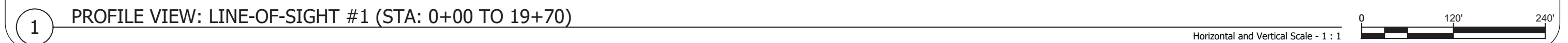
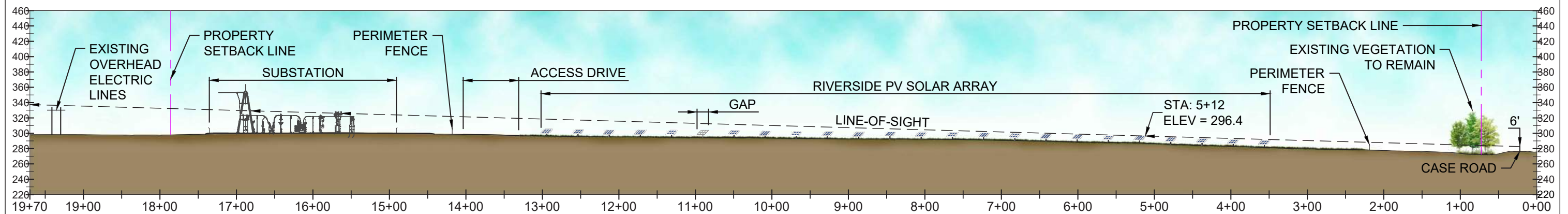
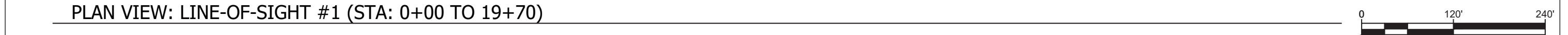
Viewpoint Coordinates	44.06621 -76.12041
Town	Lyme
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	304
Distance to Fence Line	342 ft
Direction of View	Southeast
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	5/24/2021, 11:35 AM





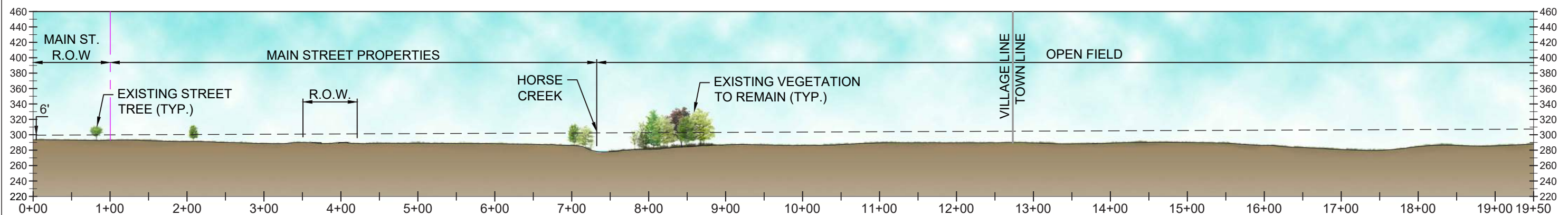






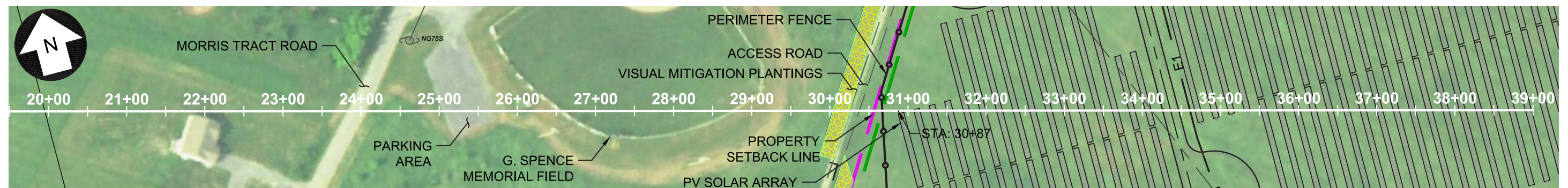


PLAN VIEW: LINE-OF-SIGHT #2 (STA: 0+00 TO 19+50)

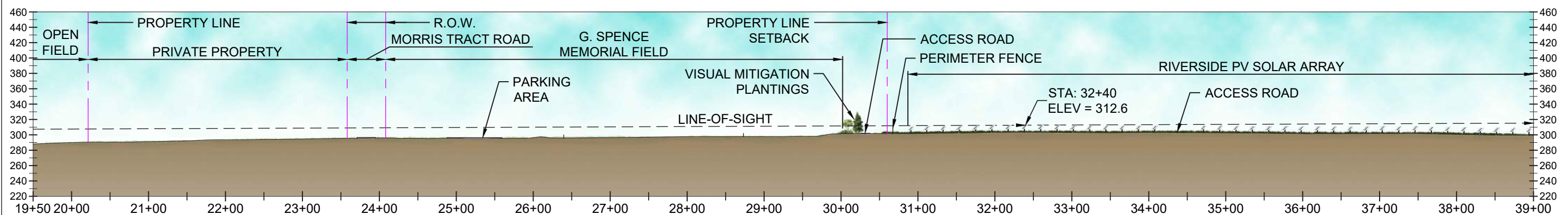


2a PROFILE VIEW: LINE-OF-SIGHT #2 (STA: 0+00 TO 19+50)

Horizontal and Vertical Scale: 1 : 1



PLAN VIEW: LINE-OF-SIGHT #2 (STA: 19+50 TO 39+00)



2b PROFILE VIEW: LINE-OF-SIGHT #2 (STA: 19+50 TO 39+00)

Horizontal and Vertical Scale: 1 : 1

Attachment 6: Outreach Correspondence

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:20 PM
To: superaubertine@townoflyme.com
Cc: Bartos, Judith; Brett Hastings; Joshua Baird; Eric Will
Subject: AES Riverside, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_Lyme Visual Outreach_4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Aubertine,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project. We are requesting input from the Town of Lyme regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | TRCcompanies.com



650 Suffolk St., Suite 200
Lowell, MA 01854

T 978.970.5600
TRCcompanies.com

April 26, 2021

Mr. Scott Aubertine
12175 NYS Route 12E
P.O. Box 66
Chaumont, NY 13622

Sent via email to superaubertine@townoflyme.com

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Aubertine:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) will be included in the Application to determine the extent and assess the significance of Project visibility. The VIA will, in part, identify sensitive resource areas susceptible to visual changes from the Project and present photographic simulations of the Project's components in relation to selected, representative viewpoints. The VIA also supports a historic architectural survey which takes into account sites or structures listed in or eligible for listing in the National or State Register of Historic Places (NRHP/SRHP).

Enclosed with this letter is a progress report on the VIA. It provides an overview of the work that has been done to date on the VIA including the status of visualization studies, site visits, preliminary analyses, and background information on the VIA process.

We are herein requesting your input as part of the Applicant's consultations with local historic preservation groups and Visual Stakeholders (which comprises the Towns of Lyme and Brownville municipal representatives, ORES, OPRHP, and municipalities within the two-mile viewshed of the Visual Study Area having predicted visibility of the Project) in its review of important or representative viewpoints that may be subject to Project visibility.

Preliminary visual analyses and site investigations are in progress. The purpose of this letter and the enclosed Progress Report are to:

- Provide the reader with the extent and findings of visibility studies thus far, and
- Request the timely input from local historic groups and Visual Stakeholders in identifying any additional sensitive visual resources important to the community within the Project study area over what is provided herein, and/or,

- Provide an opportunity for the Towns of Lyme and Brownville to choose simulation viewpoints from the Project Photolog of existing photographs, or suggest additional representative and reasonable candidate locations for photo-simulations (before and after depictions of the Project) in areas of their concern. It should be noted this request is confined to areas with public access.

Please review the inventory of visual resources in Table 1 of the Progress Report for completeness.

Please also review the candidate viewpoints listed in Table 2 and shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4 in Attachment 1 of the enclosed Progress Report.

If you feel that the identified visual resources and candidate viewpoints provide an adequate representation of potential Project visibility for the purposes of preparing the VIA, no further action on your part is necessary. However, if you have a preferred existing viewpoint for a simulation provided in the Project Photolog, or there are other public visual resource locations of concern currently not depicted, please provide your comments or feedback, with an explanation of why you feel that location/viewpoint should be included.

Any comments or feedback you may have are **requested by May 17, 2021** and should be sent to:

Judy Bartos, JBartos@trccompanies.com
Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:57 PM
To: 'mailman5@tds.net'
Cc: Brett Hastings; 'Eric Will'; Bartos, Judith; 'Joshua Baird'
Subject: Riverside Solar, Visual Outreach
Attachments: Riverside_ Lyme Historian Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Schofield,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project proposed in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville. We are requesting input from you as the Town of Lyme Historian regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

This request for input has also been sent to the Town Supervisor (Scott Aubertine) and the Chair of the Planning Board (Reginald Schweitzer, Jr.).

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

April 26, 2021

Mr. Ted Schofield
Town of Lyme Historian
PO Box 57
Chaumont, NY 13622

Sent via email to mailman5@tds.net

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Schofield:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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- Provide an opportunity for the Towns of Lyme and Brownville to choose simulation viewpoints from the Project Photolog of existing photographs, or suggest additional representative and reasonable candidate locations for photo-simulations (before and after depictions of the Project) in areas of their concern. It should be noted this request is confined to areas with public access.

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Any comments or feedback you may have are **requested by May 17, 2021** and should be sent to:

Judy Bartos, JBartos@trccompanies.com
Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:29 PM
To: rschweitzerjr@townoflyme.com
Cc: Brett Hastings; Eric Will; Bartos, Judith; Joshua Baird
Subject: Riverside Solar Project, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_ Lyme PB Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Schweitzer,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project proposed in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville. We are requesting input from the Town of Lyme regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). A copy of this request has also been sent to the Town Supervisor, Scott Aubertine. We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

April 26, 2021

Mr. Reginald Schweitzer, Jr.
12175 NYS Route 12E
P.O. Box 66
Chaumont, NY 13622

Sent via email to rschweitzerjr@townoflyme.com

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Schweitzer:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) will be included in the Application to determine the extent and assess the significance of Project visibility. The VIA will, in part, identify sensitive resource areas susceptible to visual changes from the Project and present photographic simulations of the Project's components in relation to selected, representative viewpoints. The VIA also supports a historic architectural survey which takes into account sites or structures listed in or eligible for listing in the National or State Register of Historic Places (NRHP/SRHP).

Enclosed with this letter is a progress report on the VIA. It provides an overview of the work that has been done to date on the VIA including the status of visualization studies, site visits, preliminary analyses, and background information on the VIA process.

We are herein requesting your input as part of the Applicant's consultations with local historic preservation groups and Visual Stakeholders (which comprises the Towns of Lyme and Brownville municipal representatives, ORES, OPRHP, and municipalities within the two-mile viewshed of the Visual Study Area having predicted visibility of the Project) in its review of important or representative viewpoints that may be subject to Project visibility.

Preliminary visual analyses and site investigations are in progress. The purpose of this letter and the enclosed Progress Report are to:

- Provide the reader with the extent and findings of visibility studies thus far, and
- Request the timely input from local historic groups and Visual Stakeholders in identifying any additional sensitive visual resources important to the community within the Project study area over what is provided herein, and/or,

- Provide an opportunity for the Towns of Lyme and Brownville to choose simulation viewpoints from the Project Photolog of existing photographs, or suggest additional representative and reasonable candidate locations for photo-simulations (before and after depictions of the Project) in areas of their concern. It should be noted this request is confined to areas with public access.

Please review the inventory of visual resources in Table 1 of the Progress Report for completeness.

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Any comments or feedback you may have are **requested by May 17, 2021** and should be sent to:

Judy Bartos, JBartos@trccompanies.com
Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:05 PM
To: rudyard.edick@ores.ny.gov
Cc: Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov; Brett Hastings; Bartos, Judith; Joshua Baird; JMuscato@youngsommer.com; Jessica Klami
Subject: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach
Attachments: Riverside ORES Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Edick,

Attached please find an information request regarding the AES Riverside Solar Project. We are requesting input from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying directly to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

April 26, 2021

Mr. Rudyard Edick
Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES)
99 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12231

Sent via email to Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Edick:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

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Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

cc: Houtan Moaveni, Executive Deputy Director - ORES

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:35 PM
To: townbr@yahoo.com
Cc: Bartos, Judith; Eric Will; Brett Hastings; Joshua Baird
Subject: Riverside Solar, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_Bville Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Lane,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project proposed in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville. We are requesting input from the Town of Brownville regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

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Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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April 26, 2021

Mr. Richard Lane
Town Supervisor
Town of Brownville
16431 Star School House Road
Dexter, NY 13634

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Lane:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:07 AM
To: Optus Team
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Town of Brownville Contact Information
Attachments: Riverside_Bville PB Visual Outreach 05.4.21.pdf

Importance: High

Could you please provide the attached to Mr. McGregor?

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088

T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914

[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

From: Optus Team <townbr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 1:38 PM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Town of Brownville Contact Information

This is an **EXTERNAL** email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

This is the only email for the entire office. Please send any email for Supv. Lane or Code Officer McGregor to this email.

On Monday, April 26, 2021, 03:39:13 PM EDT, Kranes, Samantha <skranes@trccompanies.com> wrote:

Ms. McCartin,

I just sent an email to the attention of the Town Supervisor, Richard Lane, at the townbr@yahoo.com email address. Is there a separate email for him that I should send items to him directly? This is for review of the Riverside Solar Project's visual study documents.

I would also like to send a copy of this review request to the Planning Board Chair, Mr. McGregor. Could you provide an email address I could use for him?

Thank you,

Samantha

Samantha Kranes

Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088

T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914

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May 4, 2021

Mr. Ronald McGregor
Zoning Enforcement Officer
Town of Brownville
16431 Star School House Road
Dexter, NY 13634

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. McGregor:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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Judy Bartos, JBartos@trccompanies.com

Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

April 26, 2021

Mr. Dan Bagrow
New York State Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188

Uploaded via SHPO CRIS

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project
SHPO Project Review Number: 20PR03909

Dear Mr. Bagrow:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

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Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:29 PM
To: 'mbourcy@co.jefferson.ny.us'
Cc: Bartos, Judith; Brett Hastings; 'Eric Will'; Joshua Baird
Subject: Riverside Solar, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_ Jefferson Co. Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Mr. Bourcy,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project proposed in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville. Jefferson County, New York. We are requesting input from Jefferson County regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | F 315.451.7903 | C 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)



650 Suffolk St., Suite 200
Lowell, MA 01854

T 978.970.5600
TRCcompanies.com

April 26, 2021

Michael J. Bourcy
Director of Planning
175 Arsenal Street
Watertown, New York 13601

Sent via email to mbourcy@co.jefferson.ny.us

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Mr. Bourcy:

This letter serves as an information request concerning the development of a proposed solar facility, the Riverside Solar Project (Project), in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York, by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of the AES Corporation. The Applicant plans to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility for the Project (Application) under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

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Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

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Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:20 PM
To: Admin@JeffersonCountyHistory.org
Cc: Bartos, Judith; Eric Will; Brett Hastings; Joshua Baird
Subject: Riverside Solar Project, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_ Jefferson Co. Historian Visual Outreach 4.26.21.pdf

Ms. Engleman,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project proposed in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. We are requesting input from the Jefferson County Historical Society regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

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Thank you,
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Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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T 315.362.2415 | F 315.451.7903 | C 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

April 26, 2021

Toni Engleman
Interim Executive Director
Jefferson County Historical Society
228 Washington Street
Watertown, New York 13601

Sent via email to Admin@JeffersonCountyHistory.org

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project

Dear Ms. Engelman:

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Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.

April 26, 2021

Mr. Dan Bagrow
New York State Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188

Uploaded via SHPO CRIS

Subject: Visual Impact Survey Request – Riverside Solar Project
SHPO Project Review Number: 20PR03909

Dear Mr. Bagrow:

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- Provide the reader with the extent and findings of visibility studies thus far, and
- Request the timely input from local historic groups and Visual Stakeholders in identifying any additional sensitive visual resources important to the community within the Project study area over what is provided herein, and/or,

- Provide an opportunity for the Towns of Lyme and Brownville to choose simulation viewpoints from the Project Photolog of existing photographs, or suggest additional representative and reasonable candidate locations for photo-simulations (before and after depictions of the Project) in areas of their concern. It should be noted this request is confined to areas with public access.

Please review the inventory of visual resources in Table 1 of the Progress Report for completeness.

Please also review the candidate viewpoints listed in Table 2 and shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4 in Attachment 1 of the enclosed Progress Report.

If you feel that the identified visual resources and candidate viewpoints provide an adequate representation of potential Project visibility for the purposes of preparing the VIA, no further action on your part is necessary. However, if you have a preferred existing viewpoint for a simulation provided in the Project Photolog, or there are other public visual resource locations of concern currently not depicted, please provide your comments or feedback, with an explanation of why you feel that location/viewpoint should be included.

Any comments or feedback you may have are **requested by May 17, 2021** and should be sent to:

Judy Bartos, JBartos@trccompanies.com
Samantha Kranes, SKranes@trccompanies.com

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your input and assistance identifying significant sensitive visual areas.

Best regards,



Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist
TRC Companies, Inc.



**VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PRELIMINARY
PROGRESS REPORT
Riverside Solar Project**

April 2021

Contents

1.0 Introduction 1

1.1. Information Request 1

1.2. Purpose..... 2

2.0 Project Overview 2

3.0 Status of Visualization Studies..... 3

3.1. Site Visit 3

3.2. Distance Zones..... 3

3.3. Landscape Similarity Zones 4

3.4. Visual Resources Inventory 5

3.5. Viewshed Analysis..... 7

3.6. Photosimulations 9

4.0 Discussion..... 11

Tables

Table 1. Preliminary Inventory of Visual Resources within the Two Mile VSA 6

Table 2. Preliminary Photosimulation Candidate Locations 9

Attachments

- Attachment 1 Maps
- Attachment 2 Project Photolog

1.0 Introduction

This is a progress report concerning the preparation of a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) by Riverside Solar, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of The AES Corporation (AES), in support of plans to submit an application to construct a major photovoltaic solar energy generation facility under Section 94-c of the New York Executive Law.

As required for Exhibit 8 (per 19 NYCRR §900.2.9), a VIA must be provided to determine the extent, and assess the significance of Project visibility. Components of the VIA will include identification of visually sensitive resources, viewshed mapping, visual assessment fieldwork, visual simulations, and proposed visual impact mitigation.

The Applicant intends to confer with local historic preservation groups and Visual Stakeholders comprised of municipal planning representatives (the Towns of Lyme and Brownville and municipalities within two miles of the Project Area with potential visibility of the Project) and other state agencies in its selection of important or representative viewpoints that may be subject to project visibility. This outreach is a part of that process.

1.1. INFORMATION REQUEST

Preliminary visual analyses and site investigations are in progress. An informational request letter has been distributed along with this Progress Report in order to:

1. Provide the reader with the extent and findings of visibility studies thus far,
2. Request the timely input from local historic preservation groups and Visual Stakeholders (no later than May 17, 2021) in identifying any additional sensitive visual resources important to the community within the Project study area over what is provided herein including proposed parks and other land uses, and/or
3. Provide an opportunity for Visual Stakeholders to review Project photos, several of which will be later used for photosimulations, or suggest an additional representative and reasonable candidate location for a simulation (i.e., before and after depictions of the Project). It should be noted this request is confined to areas with public access.

The viewpoint selection process to determine a location for a simulation considers several factors which are discussed in the following sections:

- Conducting an inventory of sensitive visual receptors in a two-mile Visual Study Area (VSA), to be incorporated into a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database.
- Defining Landscape Similarity Zones, which are landscape classifications specific to the study area.

- Defining Distance Zones, which determine level of discernible Project detail.
- Conducting a viewshed analysis, which depicts the potential for Project visibility over a larger regional area.
- Site visits and other means of determining views towards the Project.
- Determining proposed land uses
- Assessment of visual impacts pursuant to the requirements of adopted local laws or ordinances

1.2. PURPOSE

To help expedite review for the reader, the primary areas to focus on are Section 3.4 - Visual Resources Inventory and Section 3.6 - Photosimulations. Other sections are provided to assist the reader in understanding the visual environment with respect to potential visual impacts. The purpose of this report is to ask the reader to examine Table 1 and accompanying maps in Attachment 1 and suggest any other visual resource that the community would like recognized if it is absent from the table. Table 2 is a list of the photographs in the Project Photolog (Attachment 2). The reader is asked to examine Table 2 and the corresponding photographs. A smaller subset of photos will be chosen to produce simulations and thus, representative views of the Project.

If the identified visual resources and candidate viewpoints provide an adequate representation of the Project for the purposes of preparing the VIA, no further action is necessary. The Applicant is not requesting that the reader needs to choose all viewpoints that will be submitted for Project simulations. However, if there is a preferred existing viewpoint for a simulation that is provided in the Project Photolog, or there are other public visual resource locations of concern currently not depicted, then an explanation of why a location/viewpoint should be included must be put in a reply in response to the cover letter accompanying this report.

Please note that this request for either visual resource recognition or additional simulation viewpoints are for locations in public rights-of-way.

Residential areas will be addressed in the VIA. Final analysis of predicted visibility as seen in Figures 3 and 4 in Attachment 1 will be identified on maps so a regional understanding of Project visibility can be obtained. There will also be simulations produced that are representative of views near residences or along roadways.

2.0 Project Overview

The Riverside Solar Project will have a generating capacity of 100 MW and will be located on land leased from owners of property located in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. Refer to Figure 1 in Attachment 1 for the site location.

Areas being considered for the placement of arrays have been depicted in the enclosed Attachment 1 mapping. The Applicant is proposing a tracking racking system. The arrays in the accompanying visual analyses are set at 11 feet above ground surface (height at maximum tilt).

3.0 Status of Visualization Studies

Prior to any investigation for visual analysis, the VSA must be defined. The definition of the VSA for visual evaluation is 2 miles around the fence line of the Project. Towns that fall within the VSA include Brownville, Clayton, Lyme. Several areas were investigated outside of 2 miles.

The following documents have been reviewed for consistency against the 94-c regulations with respect to visual impact assessments. It is concluded that the 94-c regulations should satisfy the requirements for a Project visual impact assessment for the Riverside Solar Project;

- Local Law #4_ for the year 2019: Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Lyme, New York to Regulate Solar Energy Systems (12-30-2019).
- Town of Brownville Solar Energy Systems Chapter 165 Zoning § 165-34.5 (10-1-2014).

3.1. SITE VISIT

Prior to conducting site visits for the VIA, several computerized GIS desktop analyses are performed which contribute to a more complete understanding of the visual landscape within the study area. Site field visits are also necessary for ground-truthing and increasing the understanding of the visual environment. All of these study elements help to inform the VIA process and are subsequently used to determine potential candidate locations for photo-simulations.

Photos for visual simulations of the Project were acquired during these site visits in September 2020, and in March 2021. Photo viewpoint locations can be found in Figures 2, 3, and 4 in Attachment 1. A Project Photolog of the photo viewpoints can be found in Attachment 2 where detail maps also show photo locations.

3.2. DISTANCE ZONES

Establishment of Distance Zones are required as cited in §900-2.9 (b)(1) and are based on Project distances to an observer. Each of these areas will determine the level of detail and acuity of objects. Historically, these zones have been defined in documents produced by the U.S. Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management and refined to those jurisdictional lands that are prevalent in the western part of the country. Those western applications are often not as relevant to land in the northeast. The effects of distance highly depend on the characteristics of the landscape. However, size, level of visibility perceived for this particular type of project (solar panels), and panel position in the landscape should also be considered in determining zones. Solar panels are not wind turbines or tall buildings. They are of a different character with a low vertical height profile in comparison to other larger objects found in the landscape such as houses, barns, and trees, in addition to the rolling topography in the area that could easily visually obstruct farther locations. Solar projects typically have lateral breadth but the visibility of solar

projects in the northeast, because of frequent and highly vegetated narrow ridges and valleys and dense forest areas surrounding agricultural lands, often do not offer substantial far-reaching vistas of many miles. Distance zones for this Project have been reasonably modified from the US Forest Service Handbook to accommodate the VSA radius, limitations of human vision and perceptible detail of the low profile of the Project components, and how much of the Project can actually be seen. Historically for larger Projects, three distance zones have been applied to the Project: foreground, middleground, and background. However, two distance zones for this Project are applicable in relation to the 94-c two-mile VSA:

- Distance Zone 1: Foreground (up to 0.5 miles from the viewer). This is the closest distance at which details of the landscape and the solar panels can be seen. Individual landscape forms are typically dominant and individual panel strings and racking system detail may be seen. The concentration of predicted visible areas typically lies within this zone.
- Distance Zone 2: Middleground (0.5 to 2 miles from the viewer). At this distance, individual tree forms and building detail can still be distinguished at, for example, 1 mile. The outer boundary of this distance zone, however, is defined as the point where the texture and form of individual plants are no longer visibly acute in the landscape. In some areas, atmospheric conditions can reduce visibility and shorten the distance normally covered by each zone. Solar panels lose their level of detail and are seen as a continuous mass of form and/or color. Typically, the concentration of predicted visibility decreases in this zone due to the more abundant screening effects of trees, buildings, and topography that lies between a viewer and the Project.
- Distance Zone 3: Background (2 to 5 miles from the viewer to the horizon). Not applicable.

It should be noted that although limits of the two-mile VSA is presumed, §900-2.9 (b)(1) also states that any potential visibility from specific significant visual resources slightly beyond the specified study area should also be examined. There are no such resources and is not applicable.

3.3. LANDSCAPE SIMILARITY ZONES

Landscape Similarity Zones (LSZ) are areas of similar landscape/aesthetic character based on patterns of landform, vegetation, water resources, land use, and user activity. These zones provide additional context for evaluating viewer circumstances and visual experiences within the study area. Land cover classification datasets from the 2016 USGS National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD) are available for GIS analysis and were used for an initial establishment of LSZs because they provide distinct and usable landscape categories. These NLCD land cover groupings were then refined based on aerial photo interpretation and field review. This effort resulted in the definition of five LSZs within the VSA, including the following:

- Zone 1: Agricultural – This zone includes cultivated land and that which is used for row crops, hay, or pasture, and can sometimes be left fallow.

- Zone 2: Forested – This zone includes mature deciduous and coniferous tree groups either in uplands or wetlands.
- Zone 3: Developed – This zone includes villages, towns, cities, rural residential abutting roadways, and transportation corridors.
- Zone 4: Open – This zone within the VSA includes miscellaneous other open land that may have minor development with less visually obstructive features such as minor expanses of barren land, land and/or with short vegetation, golf courses, ballfields, or small emergent wetlands.
- Zone 5: Water – This zone includes water bodies in the southwestern portion of the VSA that are a part of Lake Ontario, namely Guffin Bay and Sawmill Bay. It also includes the Chaumont River which runs through the northwest portion of the study area and Horse Creek, a tributary to the Chaumont River.

Figure 2 in Attachment 1 shows that Zone 1 (Agricultural) is the predominant LSZ in the VSA. Between 0.5 and 2 miles there are a couple of large discrete areas of Zone 2 Forested consisting of the Chaumont Barrens Preserve in the north of the VSA as well as to the east along both north and south sides of Witt Road. A large area of Zone 3 Developed consists of the Village of Chaumont that lies to the northwest. There are several distinct (Zone 3) linear travel corridors crossing the VSA as well. Zone 4 Open LSZ occurs infrequently, and Zone 5 Water is most predominant in the southwestern section between 0.5 and 2 miles.

3.4. VISUAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Prior to discussion of visual changes to the landscape, sensitive resource areas susceptible to potential visual impacts must be identified. Visual resources are defined as those locations that are listed and/or recognized by federal, state, or local municipalities. Visual resources reviewed within the 2-mile VSA include:

- Historic resource data courtesy of NY State Historic Preservation Office;
- Lands such as national parks and forests, forest preserves, national wildlife refuges; national landmarks, state parks and preserves, local parks;
- Scenic by-ways;
- Rivers designated (or eligible) as national or state wild, scenic or recreational;
- A local, state or federally designated trail, or one proposed for designation, snowmobile trails;
- An inventory of additional visual resources including scenic easements, recreation areas, and scenic districts, roads, overlooks, high use public areas; and
- Sensitive public community resources or local areas of concern.

The results of the inventory are presented in Table 1. Locations of these resources can be found in Figures 3 and 4 of Attachment 1.

Source information for the development of the inventory includes research for GIS data available on town, federal and state agency websites or other non-GIS based websites such as local county planning sites, chambers of commerce, recreational departments that provided information such as regulatory listings or hardcopy maps.

Table 1. Preliminary Inventory of Visual Resources within the Two Mile VSA

Map ID	Resource Name	Town	Distance (miles)	LSZ	Potential Visibility ¹
Local and State Parks/Recreation					
1	Veterans Memorial Park	Lyme	0.4	3	No
2	Beatup Marina	Lyme	0.7	3,5	No
3	Lyme Central School Playing Fields	Lyme	0.8	3	No
4	Chaumont Bay Marina	Lyme	1.0	3,5	No
5	Local Park	Lyme	1.2	3,4	No
6	Chaumont River RV Park & Campground	Lyme	1.3	2	No
7	Chaumont Public Beach	Lyme	1.3	3,5	No
8	Chaumont Boat Launch	Lyme	1.4	5	No
9	Independence Point	Lyme	1.4	3,5	No
10	Bay Breeze Golf Links	Lyme	1.7	3,4	No
N/A	Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Clayton, Lyme	0.9	2	No
N/A	Limerick Cedars Preserve	Brownville	1.1	2	No
Cemeteries					
11	Cedar Grove Cemetery	Lyme	0.7	3	No
12	Barnes Bay Cemetery	Lyme	1.2	3	No
Scenic Byways					
N/A	Seaway Trail	Brownville, Lyme	0.15 mi (816 ft)	1,3	Yes
Bikeways and Trails					
N/A	Snowmobile Trails (trail C5J)	Brownville, Clayton, Lyme	0.0	1,2	Yes

Map ID	USN	Resource Name	Town/Village	Distance (miles)	LSZ	Potential Visibility ¹
Listed Historic District ²						
N/A	04513.000171	Point Salubrious Historic District	Lyme	2.2	3	No
N/A	04548.000116	Chaumont Historic District	Lyme	0,5	3	No
Listed Historic Sites Not in a District						
A	04548.000039	Grange Hall and Dairymen's League	Chaumont	0.4	3	No
B	04548.000001	Leray-Clark House/Evans-Gaige/Dillenback	Chaumont	0.4	3	No
C	04548.000003	Chaumont House	Chaumont	0.5	3	No
D	04548.000037	George House	Chaumont	0.7	3	No
E	04548.000038	George Brothers Building	Chaumont	0.7	3	No
Eligible Historic Sites						
N/A	04548.000072	Washington St.	Chaumont	0.6	3	No
N/A	04548.000034	St. Paul's ME Church	Chaumont	0.6	3	No
N/A	04548.000071	Washington St.	Chaumont	0.7	3	No
N/A	04548.000100	NY 12E	Chaumont	0.8	3	No
N/A	04548.000069	Water St.	Chaumont	1.0	3	No
N/A	04548.000070	Water St.	Chaumont	1.0	3	No
N/A	04513.000127	Washington St.	Lyme	0.6	3	No
N/A	04513.000126	Washington St.	Lyme	0.6	3	No
N/A	04513.000125	Washington St.	Lyme	0.7	3	No
N/A	04513.000122	Water St.	Lyme	0.9	3	No
N/A	04513.000123	Water St.	Lyme	1.0	3	No
N/A	04513.000124	Water St.	Lyme	1.0	3	No

¹ Expected visibility is based on LiDAR-based viewshed analysis results that include topography, trees, and buildings per §900-2.9 (b)(1), as it is the most reasonable and accurate depiction of landscape conditions.

3.5. VIEWSHED ANALYSIS

A viewshed analysis is a computerized GIS analytical technique that illustrates the predicted visibility that may potentially be expected for a project. It allows one to determine if and where an object, such as a solar facility, can geographically be seen within a larger regional area. For the analysis, Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) LAS point cloud data from the most recent 2014 NYS Great Lakes LiDAR dataset and obtained from the New York State GIS Program website was

used. LiDAR data is the best available elevation data as it includes high resolution accurate ground elevations in addition to building heights and individual tree heights that offer realistic physical visual impediments as they occur in the landscape.

The results of the viewshed analysis, typically displayed over a USGS topographic map or aerial photo, are combined with other sensitive location information such as historic places, national forests, or state parks, etc (Table 1). Incorporating GIS integrated data along with a viewshed analysis assists in understanding the potential for project visibility at sensitive receptors.

The viewshed analyses were performed using potential buildable array areas that are preliminary as of April 2021. Figure 1 in Attachment 1 show potential array areas being assessed for development of the Project.

Two viewshed analyses were produced:

- Viewshed with Building and Trees Included: This is the primary analysis performed as per §900-2.9 (b)(1), as it incorporates trees and buildings in the study area in addition to topography and gives the most reasonable and realistic depiction of the surrounding Project landscape. The results of this analysis provide the focus of visibility discussion in visual impact assessments because of the inherent aspects of reproducing realistic conditions when LiDAR datasets are used.
- Viewshed with Topography Only: A second analysis is with bare earth topography only. The bare earth topography analysis is not recognized as being a realistic representation of potential visibility, as it is not truly reflective of the environment due to the absence of all trees. Despite the limitations of the topography-only analysis, it can be a useful tool in allowing an understanding of how much Project visibility is blocked by terrain alone. Another caveat that is often assumed is that the topography-only results must not be interpreted as representing visibility during leaf-off conditions, since even leaf-off bare branched tree groups act as a solid mass where lines of sight to objects can be screened. While the Attachment 2 Project Photolog shows mostly direct open views, VPs 7, 23, 26, 39, and 46, are a few examples of how much visibility can be impeded even during leaf-off conditions and thus would serve to act more like the analysis using trees than topography alone. Under certain circumstances, there may possibly be visibility through bare-branched trees only if the trees are sparse, that this sparse tree row is the only existing vegetation between the viewer and the site, and that the viewer is in fairly close proximity to the Project.

The bare earth topography-only analysis is also performed to assist a separate historic architectural survey investigation (Survey) which is led by other cultural resource experts and provided in other reports. The methodology, results, and discussion pertaining to visibility of historic resources from the Survey is specific to the guidance, performance standards, and agreements with the NY Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). Therefore, details of bare earth topography visibility results pertaining to this policy will be

addressed and discussed in any cultural resources reports provided in the application. Historic resources will be addressed in the VIA. Any additional architectural survey properties discovered as a result of the Survey that is above and beyond that which is listed herein will be included in the final VIA.

Figures 3 and 4 in Attachment 1 present the results of the viewshed analyses along with the visual receptors listed in Table 1. Discussion of results can be found in Section 4.0.

3.6. PHOTOSIMULATIONS

Photosimulations depicting existing conditions and what the Project will look like are proposed. A Project Photolog showing the photos acquired during site visits in September 2020 and March 2021 is presented in Attachment 2. The Photolog also serves to describe the character of the area as well. Photo viewpoint locations are shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4 in Attachment 1 as well as Attachment 2.

Table 2 outlines the pool of candidate viewpoint locations to choose for simulations as they appear in the Attachment 2 Project Photolog. For the final VIA, a small subset of the photos from the photolog will be chosen for representative simulations showing views of the Project.

Potential visibility recorded in Table 2 is obtained from the viewshed analysis using LiDAR based topography, trees, and buildings only, as it is the most reasonable and accurate depiction of landscape conditions. Also note that the computerized nature of the viewshed analysis picks up any portion of an array that could be visible, be it 1 foot of one panel or a field of arrays. In many cases there may not be highly visible direct line of sight views or ultimately, any substantial view at all. In some cases there may be minimal or obscured views from partial gaps in vegetation.

Field efforts obtaining photographs was primarily focused on areas with predicted visibility. This may result in less photographic representation in one or more Landscape Similarity or Distance Zones as visibility simply does not occur. There were also some areas explored outside of the two-mile VSA.

Table 2. Preliminary Photosimulation Candidate Locations

Viewpoint ID	Location	Town	LSZ	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Feet	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Miles	Potential Visibility ¹
1	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	1,717	0.3	Yes
2	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	2,673	0.5	Possible
3	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Brownville	1.2	1,154	0.2	Yes
4	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Brownville	1,2	1,543	0.3	Yes
5	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1	2,272	0.4	Yes

Viewpoint ID	Location	Town	LSZ	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Feet	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Miles	Potential Visibility ¹
6	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1	3,091	0.6	Yes
7	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,2	789	0.1	No
8	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,2	893	0.2	No
9	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,2	137	0.0	Yes
10	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,3,4	516	0.1	Yes
11	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	193	0.0	Yes
12	Case Road	Lyme	1	172	0.0	Yes
13	Case Road	Lyme	1	327	0.1	Yes
14	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	268	0.1	Yes
15	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	335	0.1	Yes
16	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	284	0.1	Yes
17	Case Road	Brownville	1	212	0.0	Yes
18	Case Road	Brownville	1	2,009	0.4	Yes
19	Case Road	Brownville	1	1,586	0.3	Yes
20	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	1,297	0.2	Yes
21	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	131	0.0	Yes
22	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	75	0.0	Yes
23	Vanalstyne Road	Clayton	1,2	5,891	1.1	No
24	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Clayton	1,3	7,105	1.3	No
25	County Route 54	Clayton	1,3	9,483	1.8	No
26	County Route 54	Clayton	3	20,717	3.9	No
27	County Route 179	Lyme	4	3,746	0.7	No
28	State Route 12E	Lyme	3	2,856	0.5	No
29	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	945	0.2	Yes
30	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	970	0.2	Yes
31	Moffatt Road	Lyme	1,2	8,077	1.5	No
32	County Route 59	Brownville	5	21,442	4.1	No
33	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	1,683	0.3	Yes
34	State Route 180	Brownville	3	12,375	2.3	No
35	Witt Road	Brownville	1,3	3,752	0.7	Yes
36	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	2,641	0.5	Yes
37	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	451	0.1	Yes
38	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,5	3,314	0.6	Yes

Viewpoint ID	Location	Town	LSZ	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Feet	Approximate Distance to Project Fence Line Miles	Potential Visibility ¹
39	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,2,5	3,556	0.7	No
40	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	1,3	1,899	0.4	Yes
41	Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Lyme	3	1,122	0.2	Possible
42	County Route 125	Lyme	1,3	3,603	0.7	Yes
43	State Route 12E	Brownville	3	11,931	2.3	No
44	County Route 59	Brownville	3	7,358	1.4	Yes
45	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	2,424	0.5	Yes
46	Vanalstyne Road	Clayton	4	7,468	1.4	No

¹ Potential visibility is obtained from the viewshed analysis using topography, trees, and buildings only per §900-2.9 (b)(1), as it is the most reasonable and accurate depiction of landscape conditions.

4.0 Discussion

The viewshed analysis mapping (Figures 3 and 4, Attachment 1), show areas of expected visibility along with visual receptors listed in Table 1.

Visibility Results - Topography Only

While the topography-only analysis does not offer a fully adequate approach for evaluating visibility in the landscape, it does have value in that the screening capacity of terrain landform vs. Project visibility can be assessed. The bare earth topography-only viewshed analysis results shows that visibility is predominant in nearly all of the VSA. As a representation of true Project visibility this not accurate as the Project Photolog can demonstrate. However, the results indicate that land area in proximity to the Project does not have much topographic interference between a viewer and an array. The results also show that the small linear valley in the Chaumont River valley area will not have views as it is predominantly screened by higher topography on the river's eastern side.

Visibility Results – Building and Trees Included

The viewshed analysis with buildings and trees included is regarded as the primary focus for the evaluation of visibility.

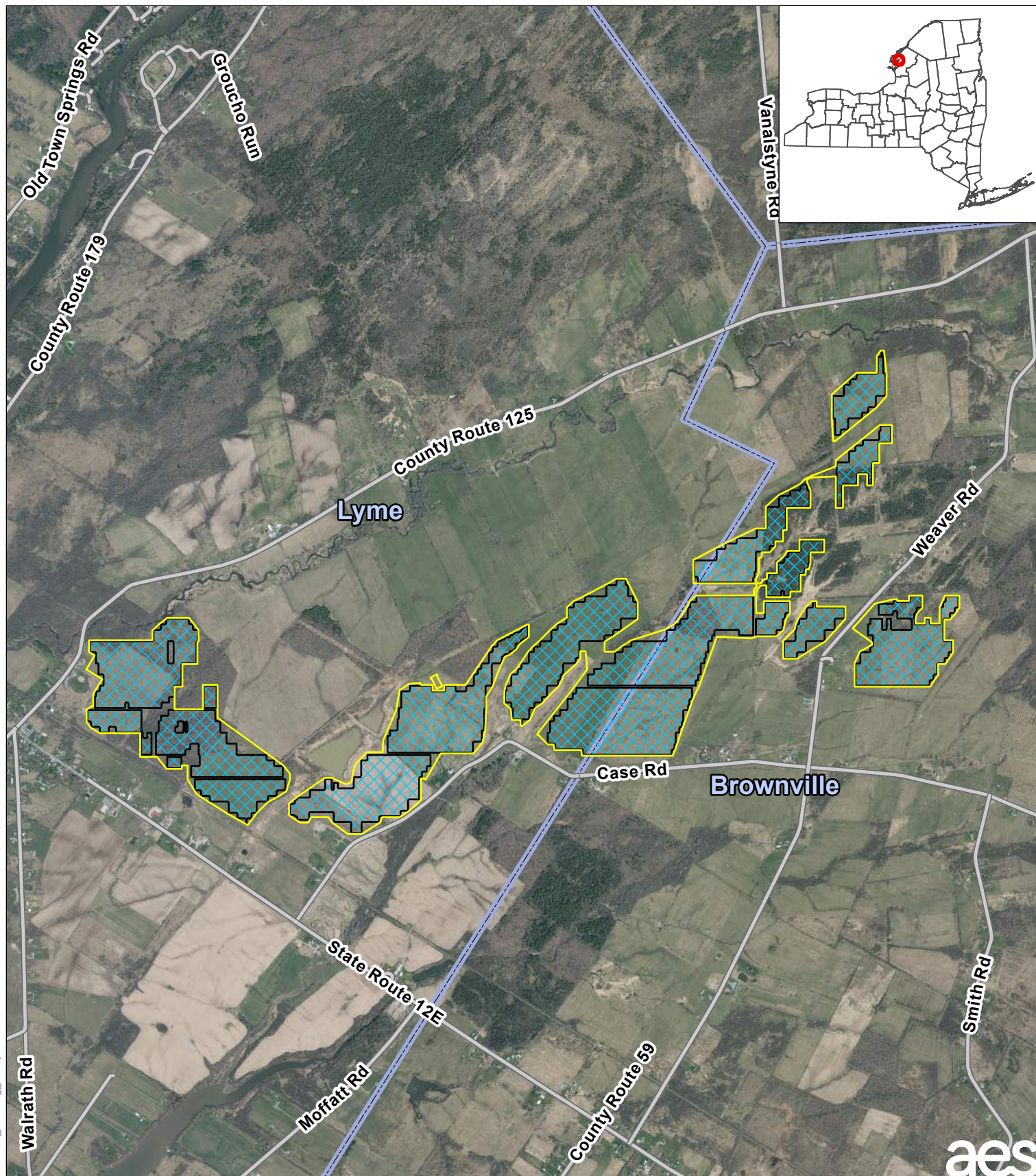
When buildings and trees are included to present a more realistic depiction of the landscape, potential visibility comparatively decreases and limited visibility is expected. The general area surrounding the Project is predominantly open land interspersed with narrow trees rows and small tree groups. Denser forested areas lie near or beyond the 0.5 Distance Zone 1, thereby screening views or are areas not possessing views at all. The majority of visibility that is expected

occurs mostly in a focused location inside of the 0.5 mile Distance Zone within the Project parcels themselves, along segments of roadway, and in several contiguous open fields outside of the Project boundary. Much of the area with visibility does not occur in publicly accessible locations. Public locations with visibility for this Project generally occur on the local roads. Although the panels are sited in open land but with forested areas in the vicinity, the low-profile panels set against existing tree buffers, hedgerows, and tree groups that frame the panel locations is enough to obscure many views. Frequently to the south, lands surrounding the Project provide a mosaicked landscape pattern with geometric agricultural land parcels interspersed with tree rows that often line the edges of fields which also provides screening. Because of an 11-foot panel maximum height in relation to the mature vegetation, there are minimal far-reaching views outside of the general array locations and Distance Zone 1.

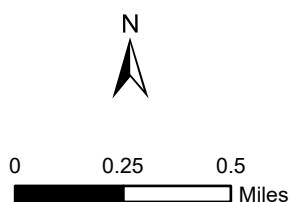
The Project has been strategically sited away from most listed sensitive visual receptors. The effect that this siting strategy has on potential visual impacts for listed visual resources is apparent in Table 1. Visual change with respect to the visual resources reported in Table 1 is minimal. There are two linear resources listed in Table 1 that are expected to have partial, intermittent but transient views. They are the Military Trail Scenic Byway (State Route 12E) to the south/southeast and snowmobile trail C5J that runs adjacent to the Project and is maintained by the Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club, Inc. Historic sites and districts, the Chaumont Barrens and Limerick Cedars Preserves, the Chaumont River and the waters of Lake Ontario to the southwest as well as the Village of Chaumont are not expected to have views of the Project.

ATTACHMENT 1

MAPS



- FENCE LINE
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS

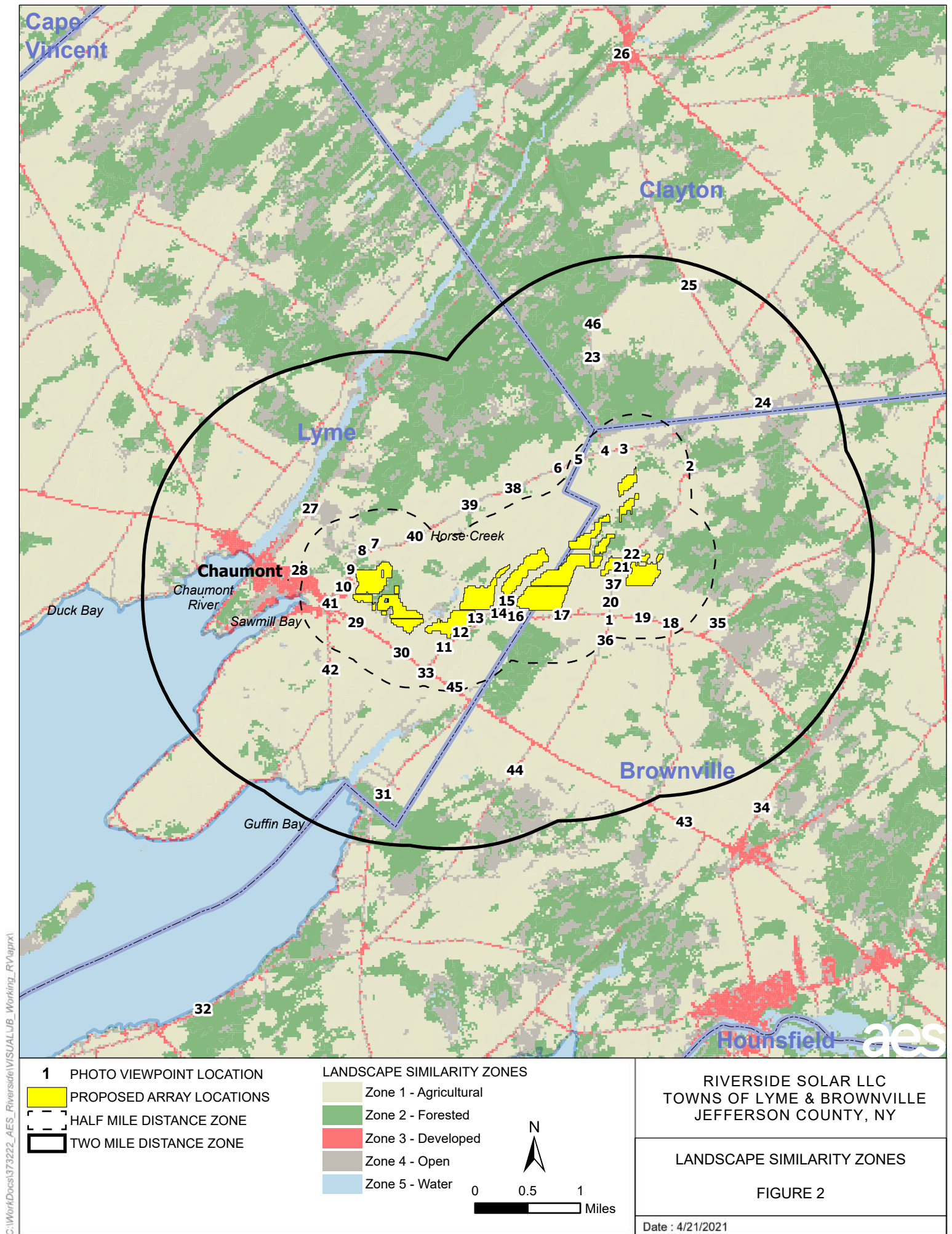


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

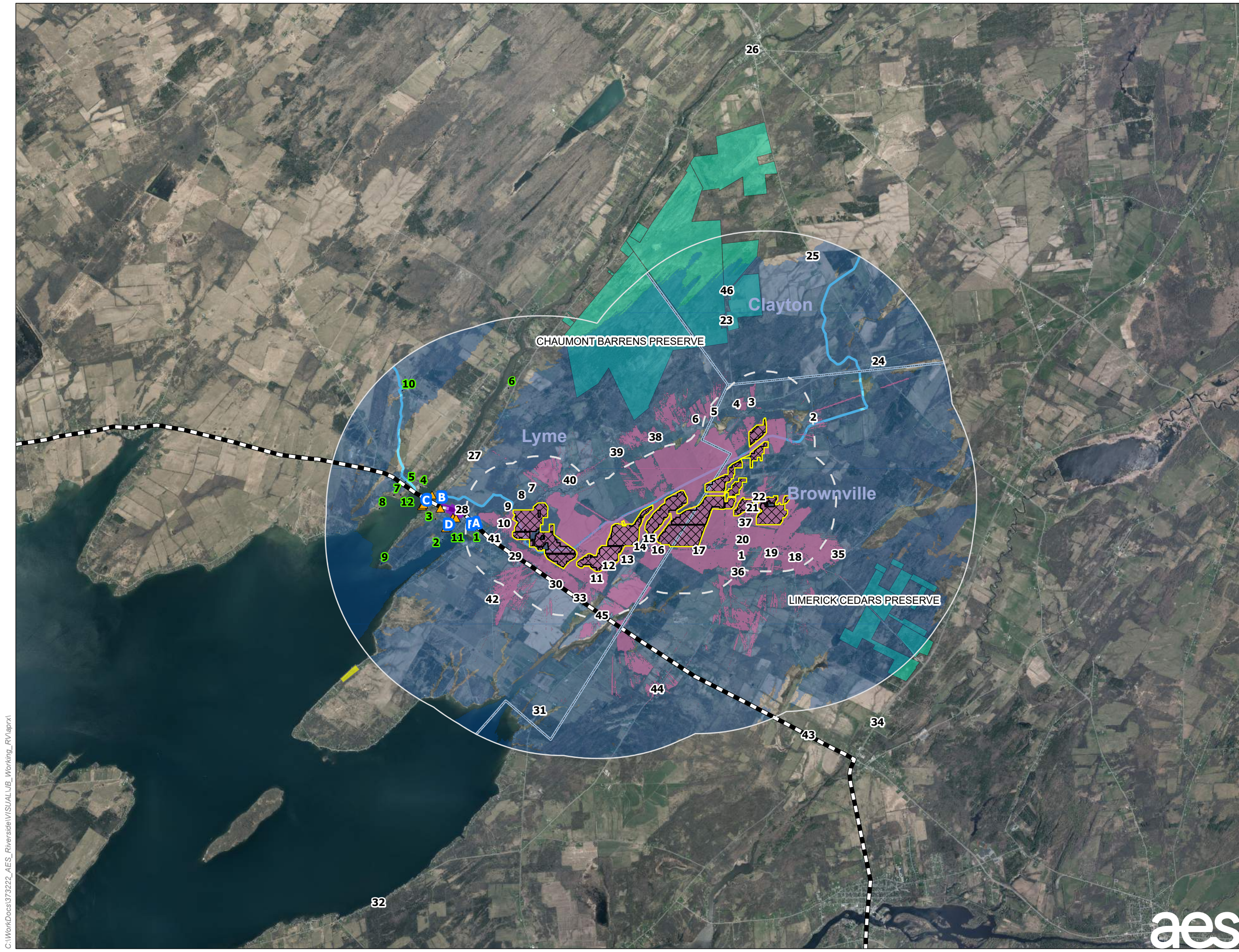
SITE LOCATION MAP

FIGURE 1

Date : 4/21/2021

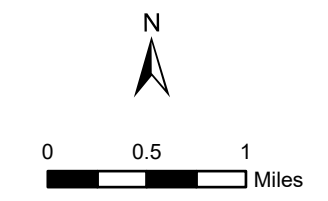


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- 1 PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- SNOWMOBILE TRAIL
- PRESERVE
- LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT

* Refer to Table 1 in report for ID number



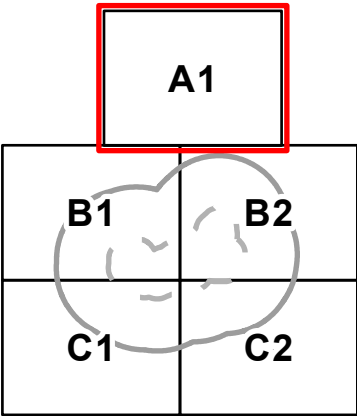
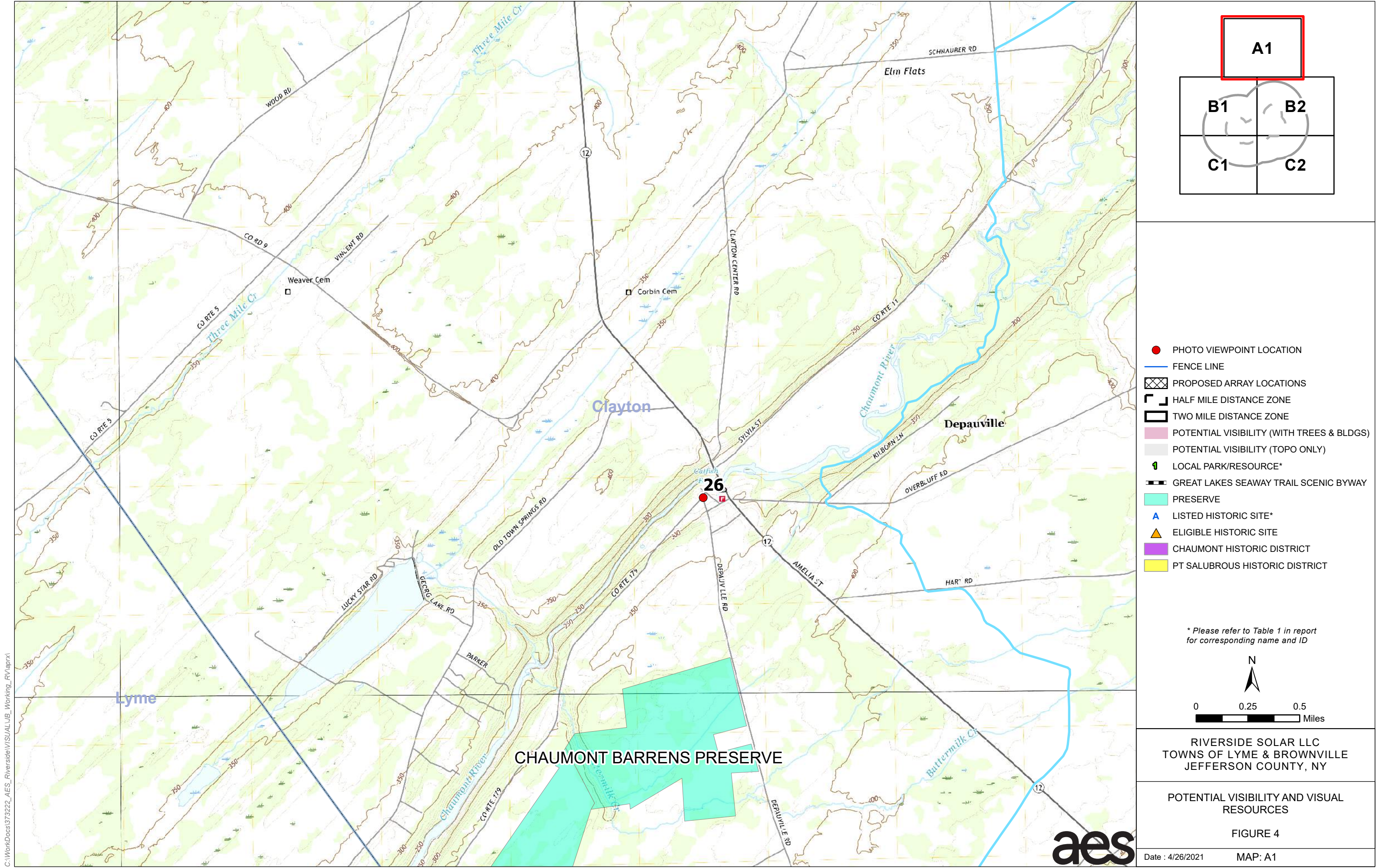
RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

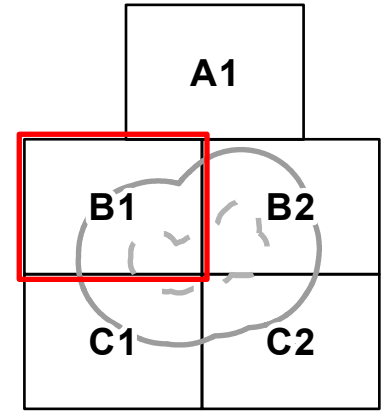
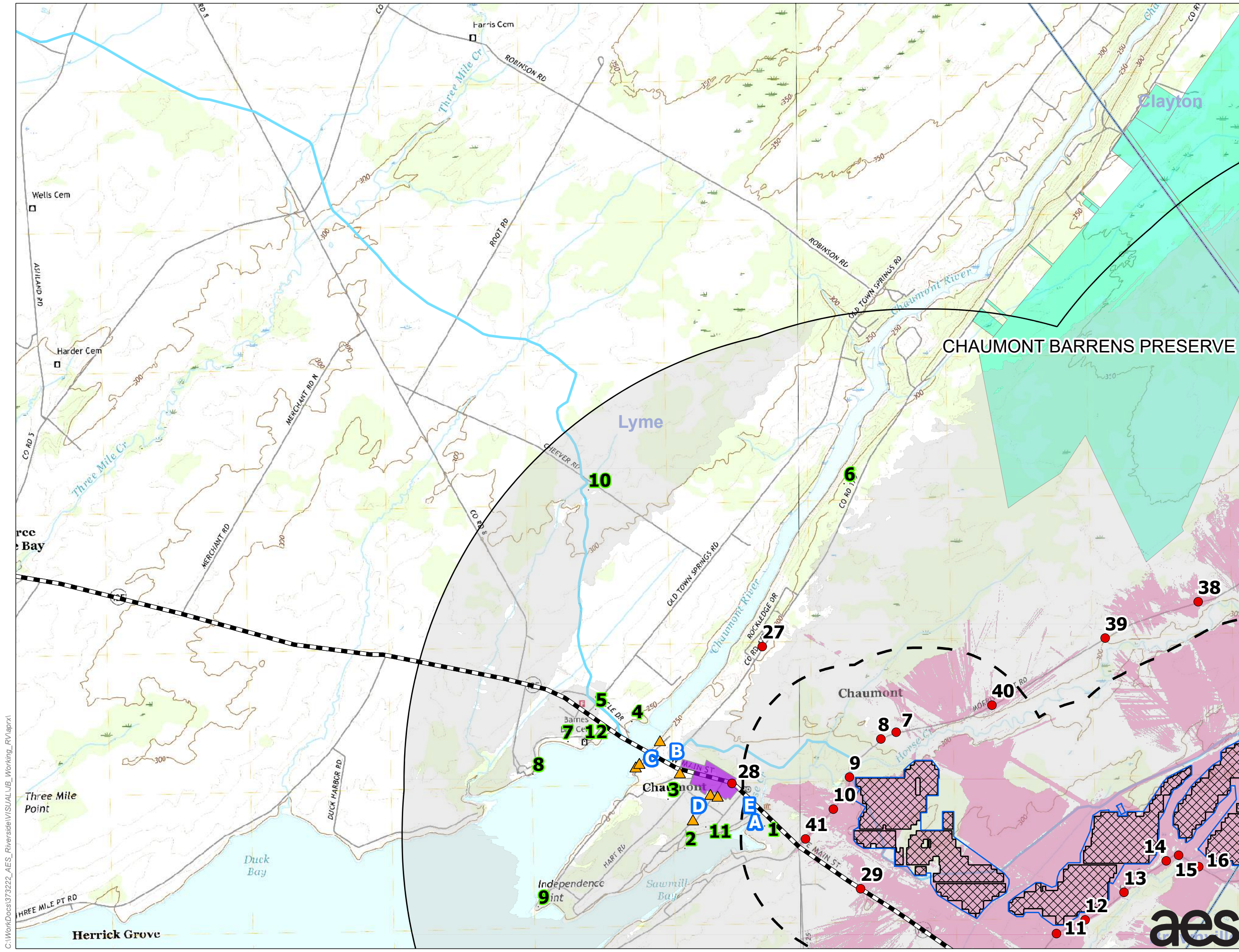
OVERVIEW OF VISUAL RESOURCES
AERIAL PHOTO

FIGURE 3

Date : 4/21/2021

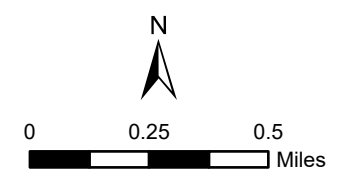






- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- ┌ HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- ▭ TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- 🌳 LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- PRESERVE
- ▲ LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ▲ ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT

* Please refer to Table 1 in report for corresponding name and ID

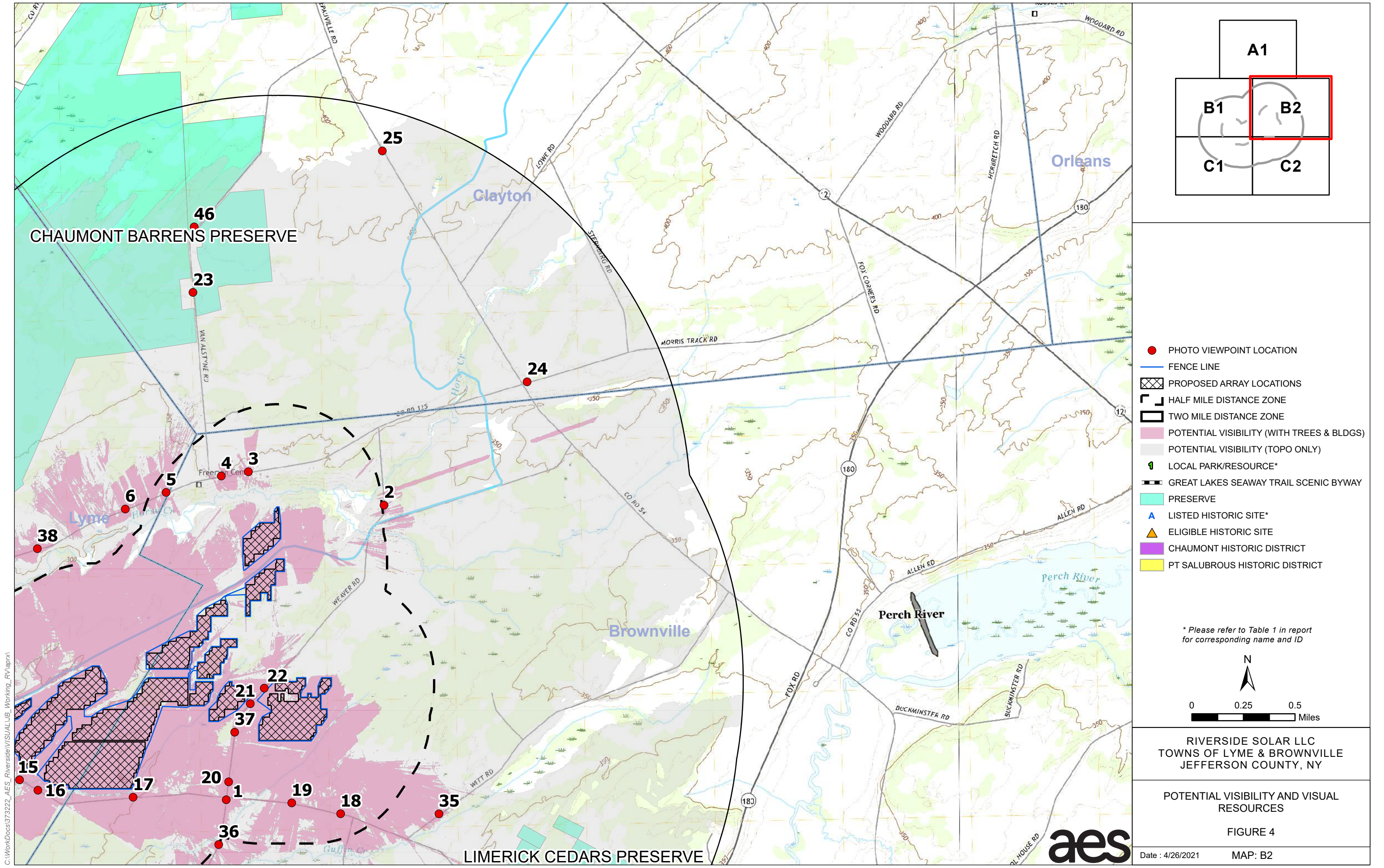


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

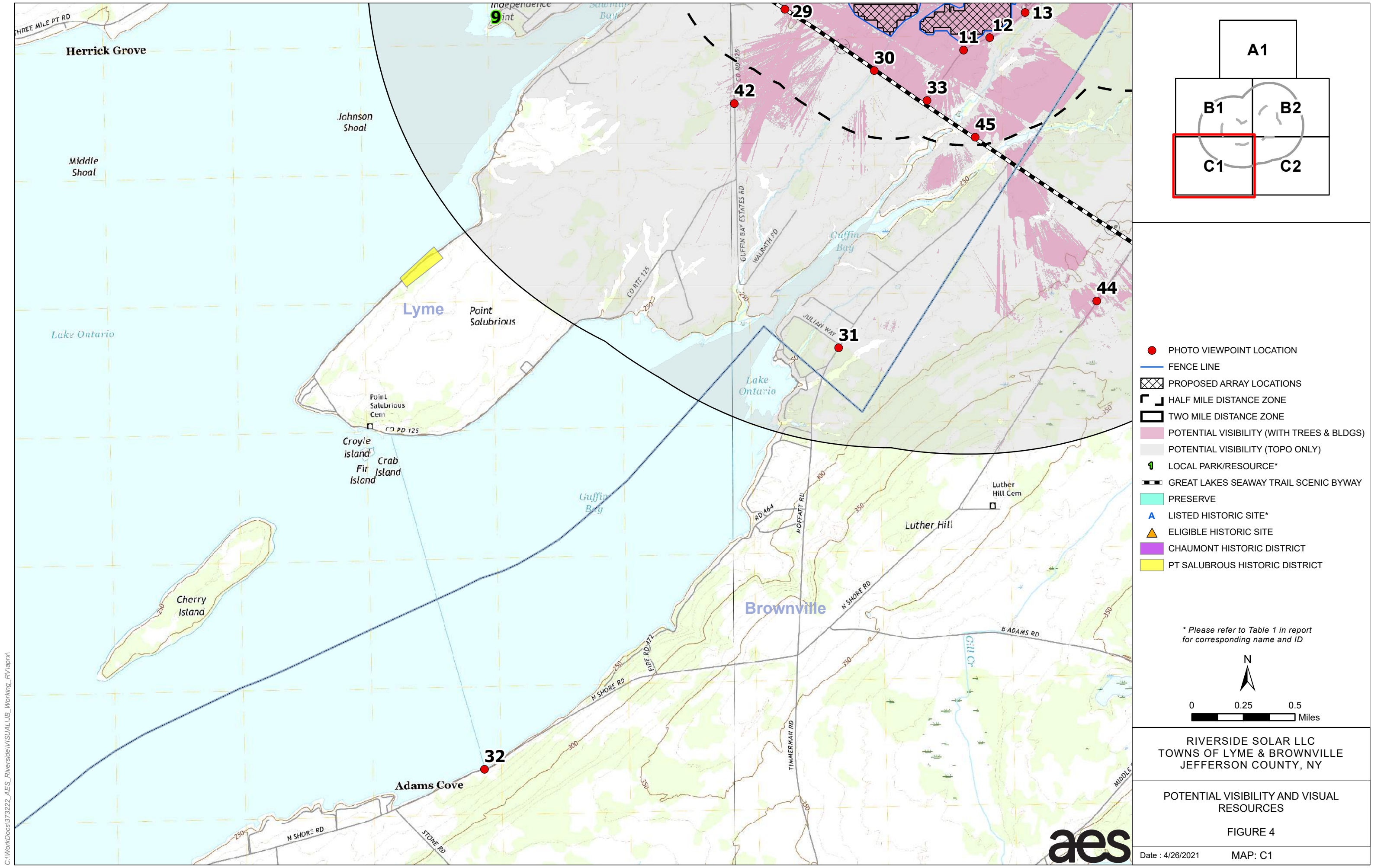
POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND VISUAL
RESOURCES

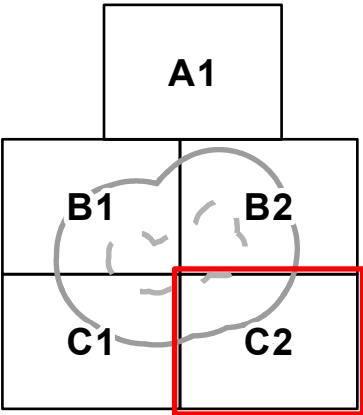
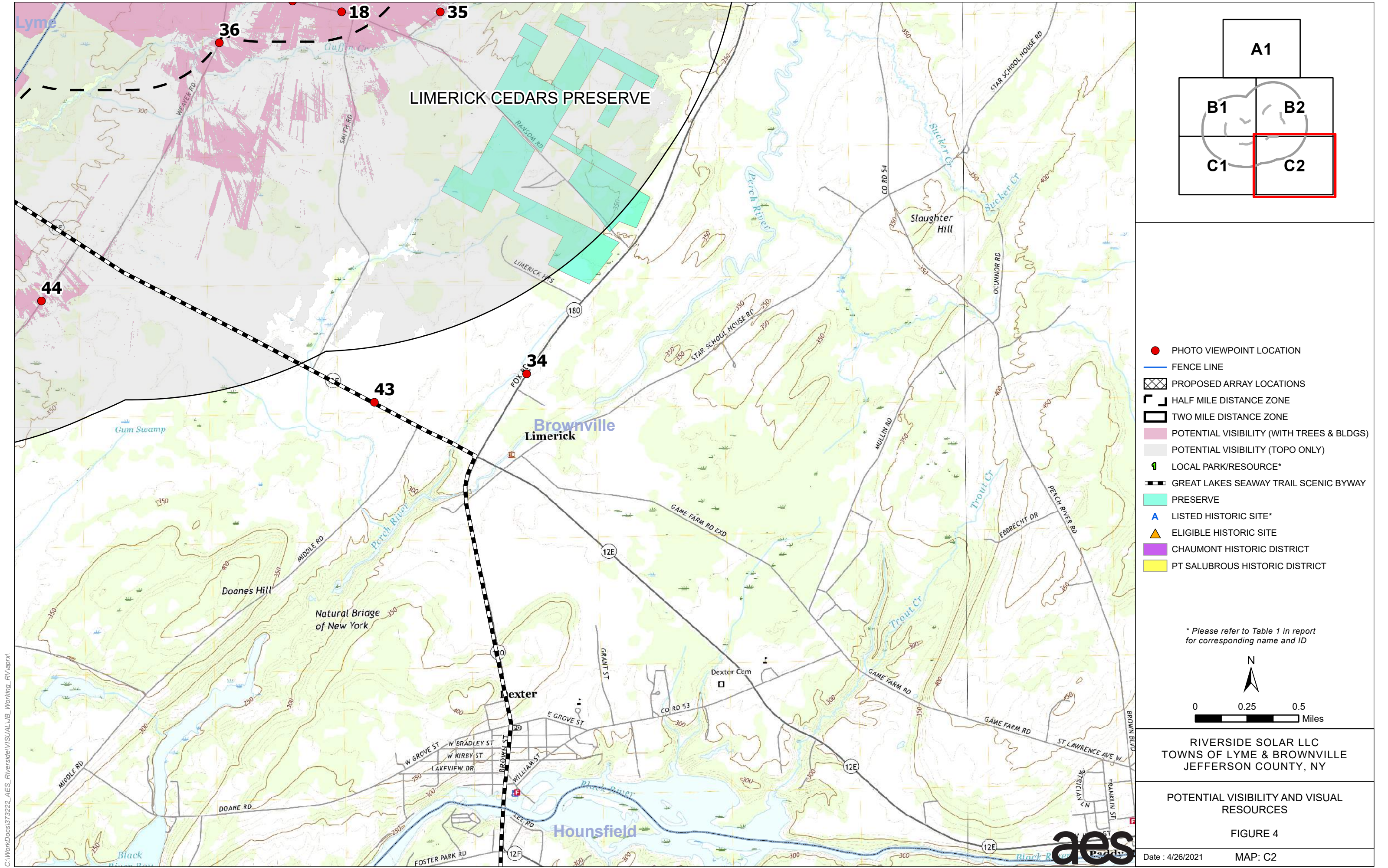
FIGURE 4

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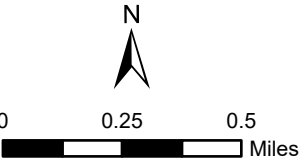
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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- ▤ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- ⌈ HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- ⌈ TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- 🌳 LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- PRESERVE
- ▲ LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ▲ ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT

* Please refer to Table 1 in report for corresponding name and ID



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND VISUAL
RESOURCES

FIGURE 4

Date : 4/26/2021

MAP: C2

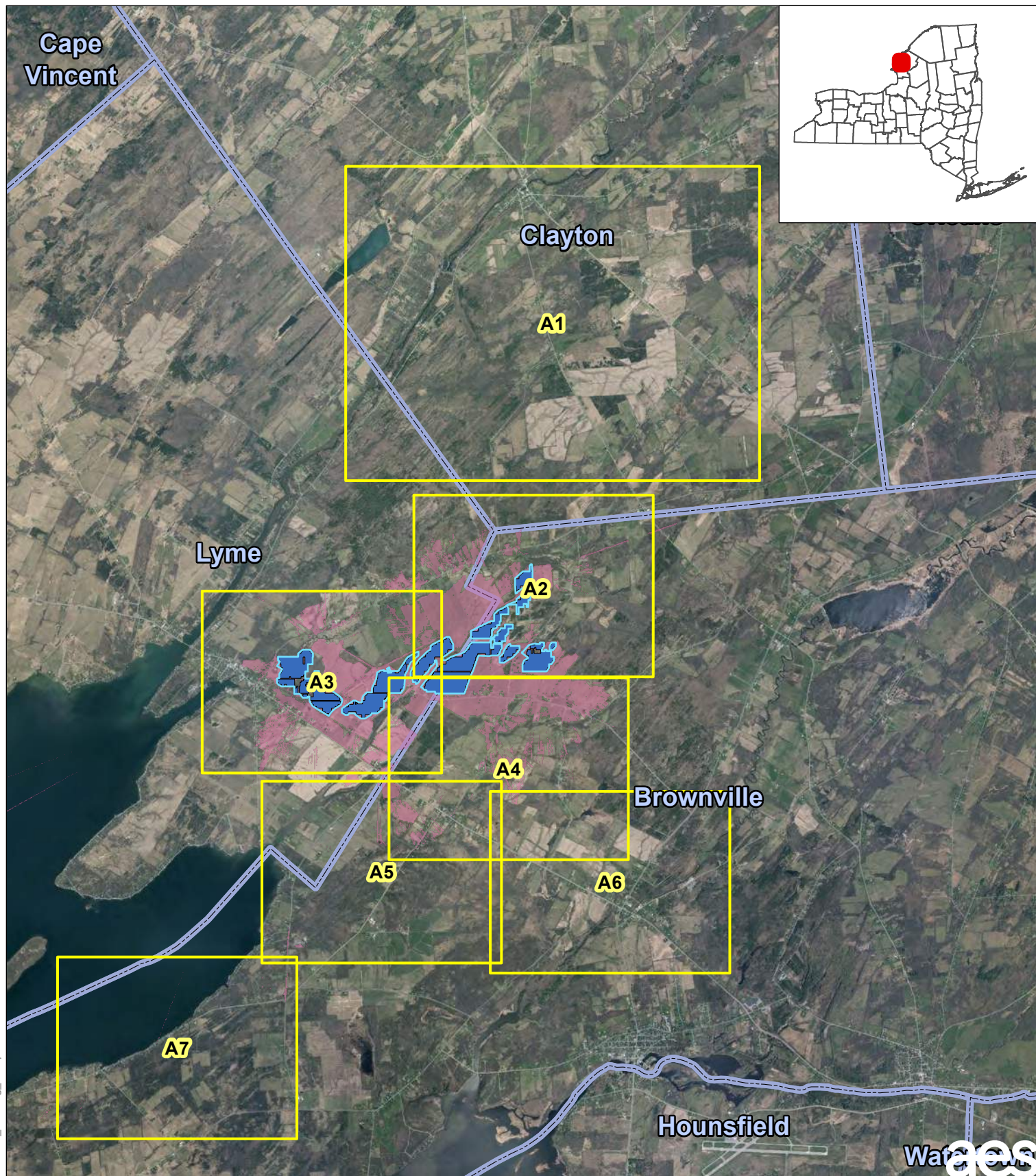
ATTACHMENT 2

PROJECT PHOTOLOG

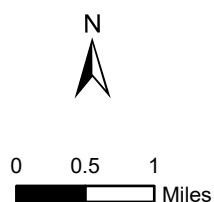
Photo Viewpoints

Viewpoint	Lat	Long	Location	Road	LSZ	Approximate Distance (ft)	Approximate Distance (mi)
1	44.06131	-76.07130	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	1,717	0.3
2	44.08193	-76.05576	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	2,673	0.5
3	44.08433	-76.06894	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Brownville	1,2	1,154	0.2
4	44.08404	-76.07158	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Brownville	1,2	1,543	0.3
5	44.08292	-76.07696	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1	2,272	0.4
6	44.08177	-76.08095	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1	3,091	0.6
7	44.07079	-76.11641	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,2	789	0.1
8	44.07036	-76.11777	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,2	893	0.2
9	44.06793	-76.12057	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,2	137	0.0
10	44.06588	-76.12202	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,3,4	516	0.1
11	44.05784	-76.10228	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	193	0.0
12	44.05871	-76.09973	Case Road	Lyme	1	172	0.0
13	44.06045	-76.09627	Case Road	Lyme	1	327	0.1
14	44.06245	-76.09250	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	268	0.1
15	44.06280	-76.09140	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	335	0.1
16	44.06206	-76.08962	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	284	0.1
17	44.06153	-76.08036	Case Road	Brownville	1	212	0.0
18	44.06028	-76.06017	Case Road	Brownville	1	2,009	0.4
19	44.06106	-76.06492	Case Road	Brownville	1	1,586	0.3
20	44.06257	-76.07105	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	1,297	0.2
21	44.06805	-76.06889	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	131	0.0
22	44.06913	-76.06753	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	75	0.0
23	44.09695	-76.07423	Vanalstyne Road	Clayton	1,2	5,891	1.1
24	44.09052	-76.04175	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Clayton	1,3	7,105	1.3
25	44.10679	-76.05570	County Route 54	Clayton	1,3	9,483	1.8
26	44.13867	-76.06829	County Route 54	Clayton	3	20,717	3.9
27	44.07632	-76.12826	County Route 179	Lyme	4	3,746	0.7
28	44.06757	-76.13101	State Route 12E	Lyme	3	2,856	0.5
29	44.06078	-76.11965	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	945	0.2
30	44.05644	-76.11099	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	970	0.2
31	44.03699	-76.11460	Moffatt Road	Lyme	1,2	8,077	1.5
32	44.00754	-76.14927	County Route 59	Brownville	5	21,442	4.1
33	44.05432	-76.10587	Case Road	Lyme	1,3	1,683	0.3
34	44.03486	-76.04245	State Route 180	Brownville	3	12,375	2.3
35	44.06023	-76.05060	Witt Road	Brownville	1,3	3,752	0.7
36	44.05817	-76.07206	Weaver Road	Brownville	1	2,641	0.5
37	44.06605	-76.07043	Weaver Road	Brownville	1,3	451	0.1
38	44.07902	-76.08953	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,5	3,314	0.6
39	44.07673	-76.09781	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,2,5	3,556	0.7
40	44.07248	-76.10789	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	1,3	1,899	0.4
41	44.06399	-76.12451	Morris Tract Road, CR 125	Lyme	3	1,122	0.2
42	44.05418	-76.12462	CR 125	Lyme	1,3	3,603	0.7
43	44.03294	-76.05723	State Route 12E	Brownville	3	11,931	2.3
44	44.04017	-76.08947	County Route 59	Brownville	3	7,358	1.4
45	44.05172	-76.10120	State Route 12E	Lyme	1,3	2,424	0.5
46	44.10154	-76.07407	Vanalstyne Road	Clayton	4	7,468	1.4

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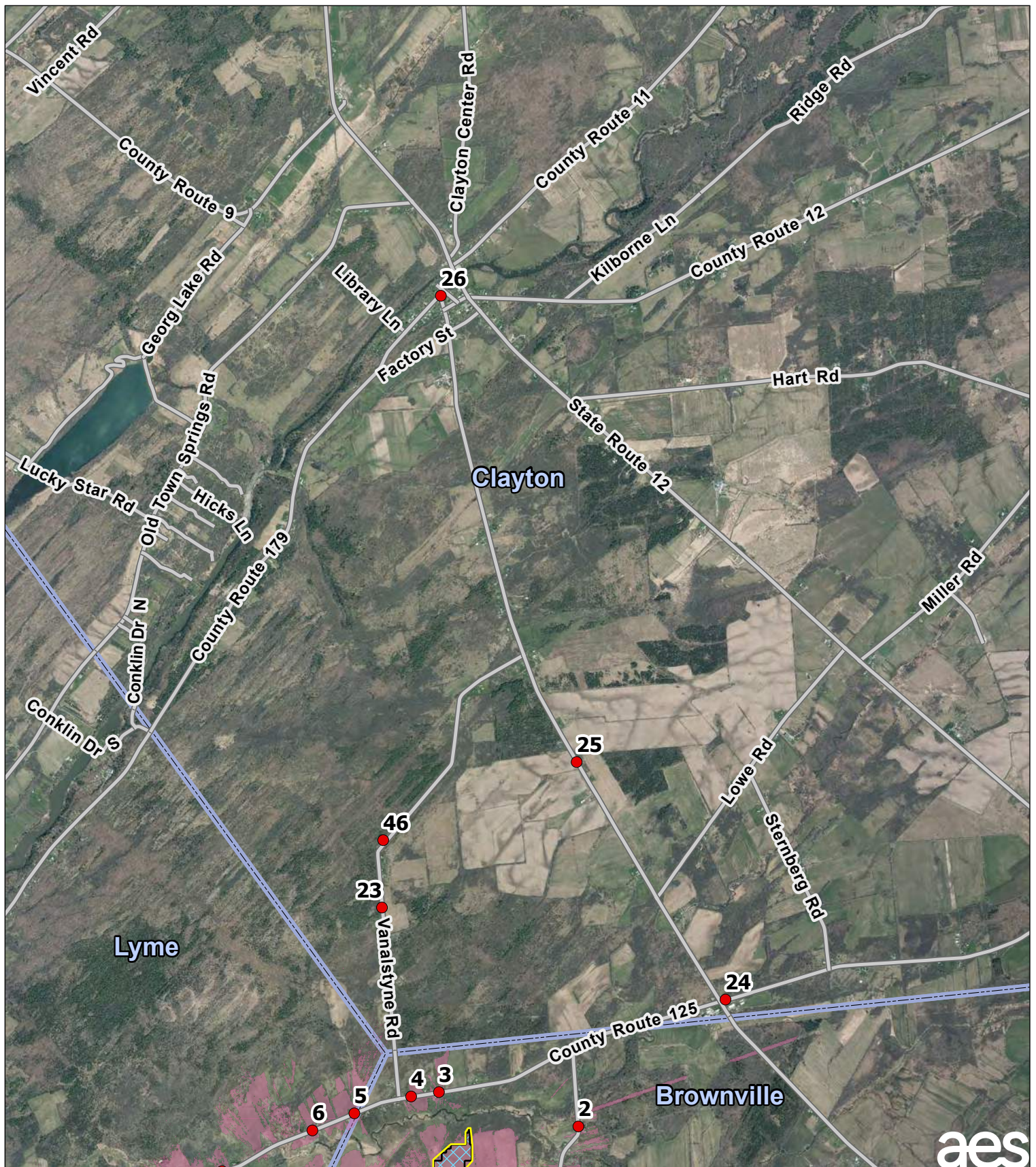
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY
- MAP INDEX



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

OVERVIEW MAP

Date : 4/22/2021



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

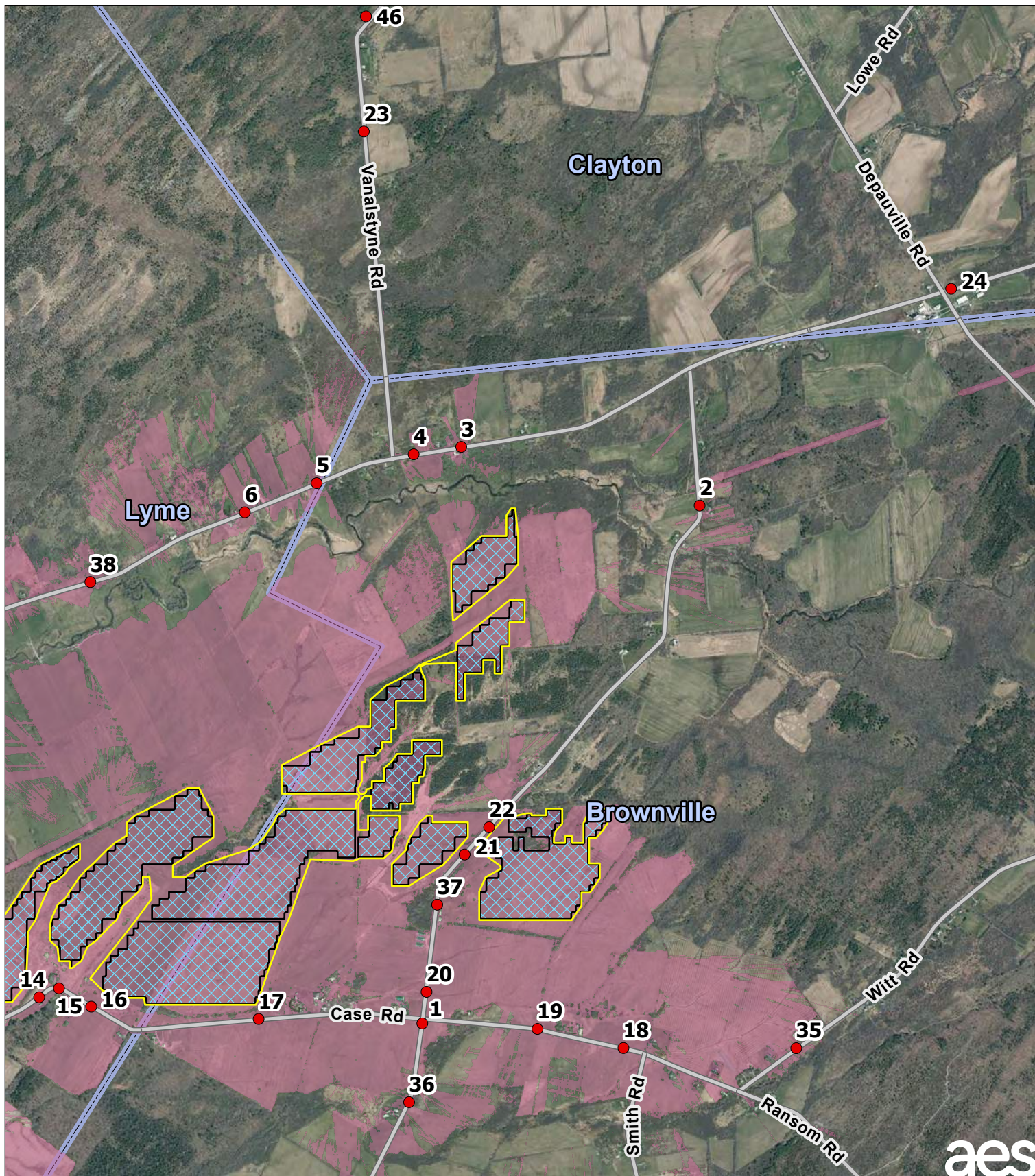


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A1

Date : 4/22/2021

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aes

- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- ▨ VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

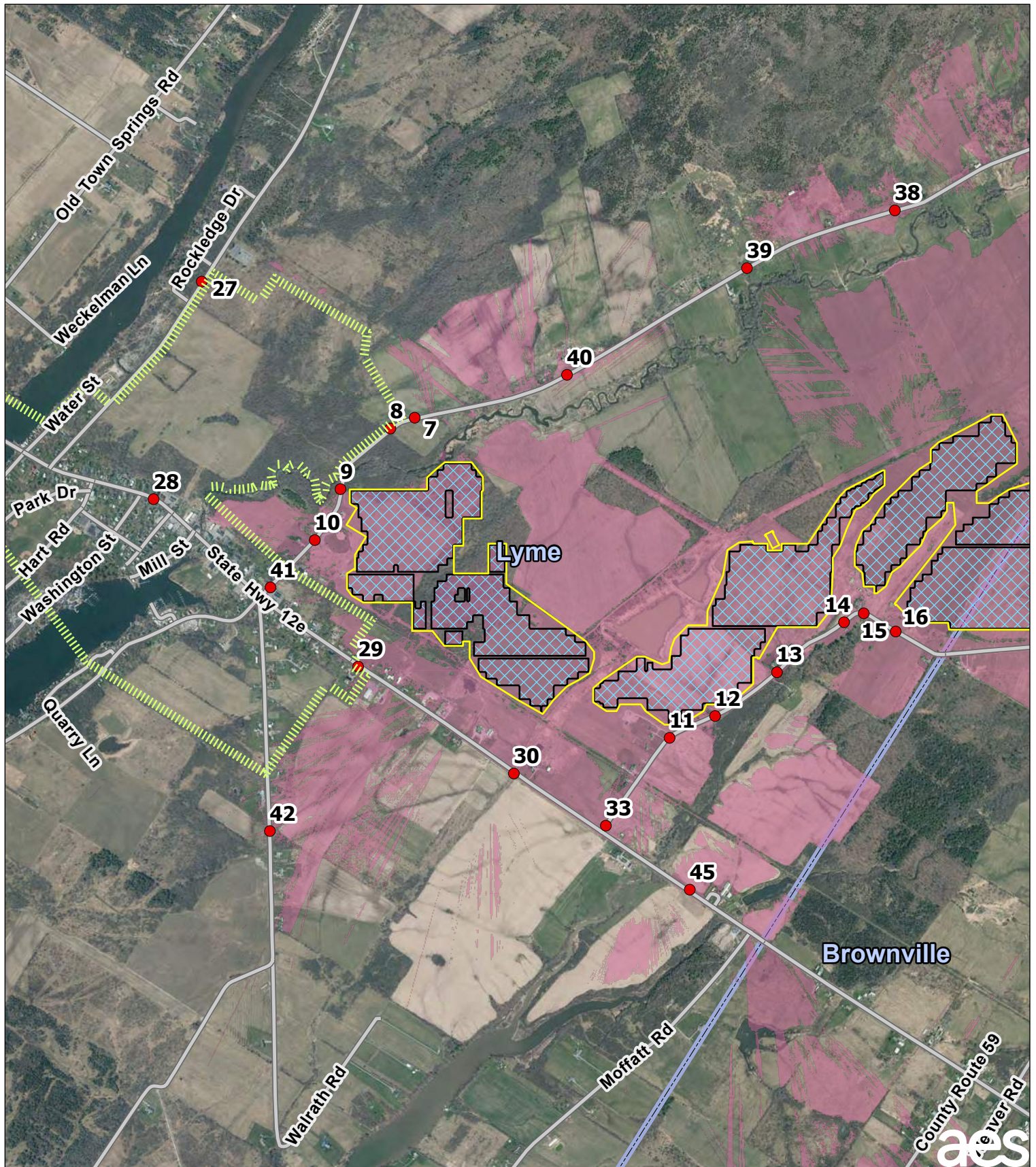
0 0.25 0.5
Miles



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A2

Date : 4/22/2021



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- ▤ VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

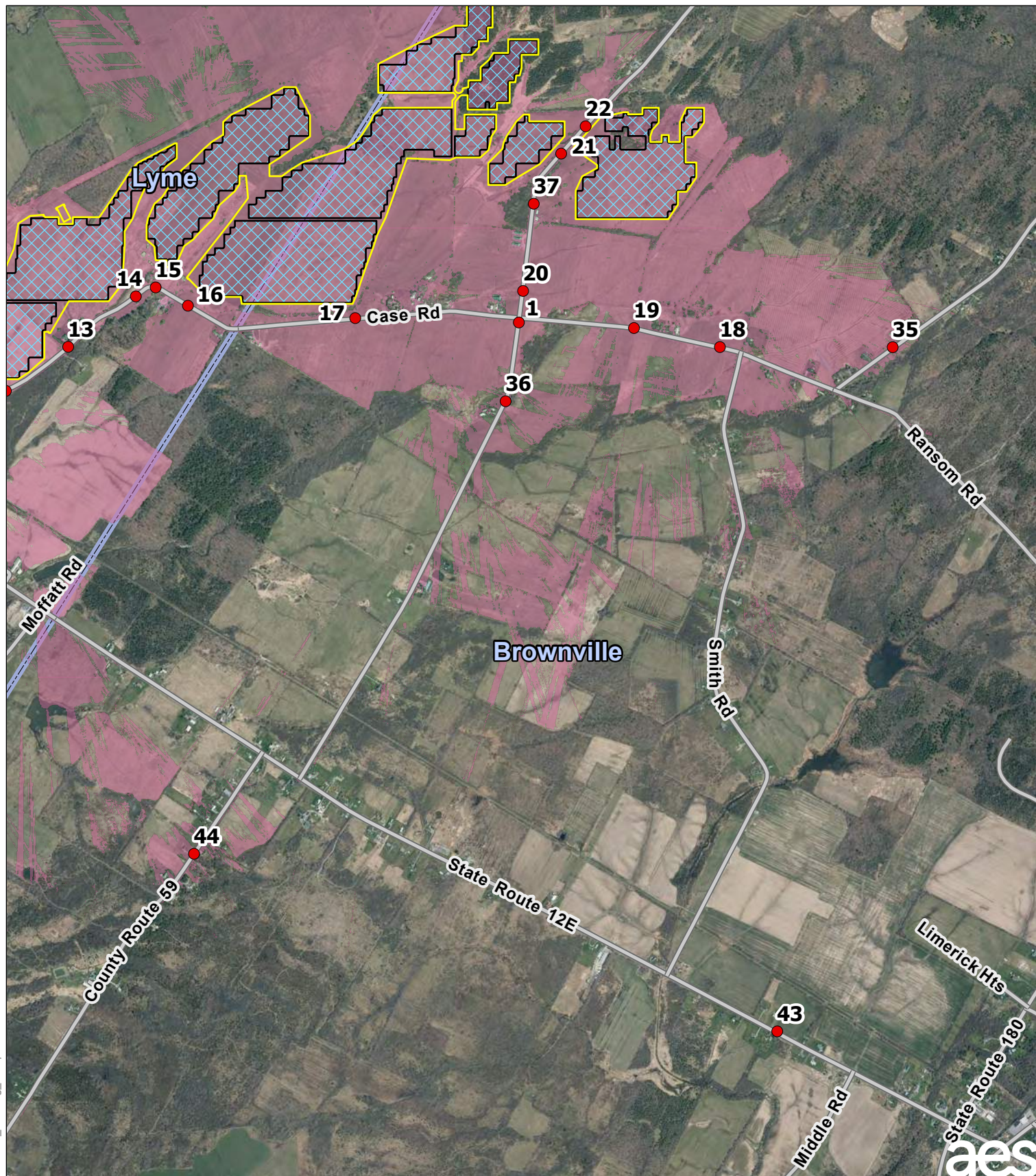


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A3

Date : 4/22/2021

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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- ▨ VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

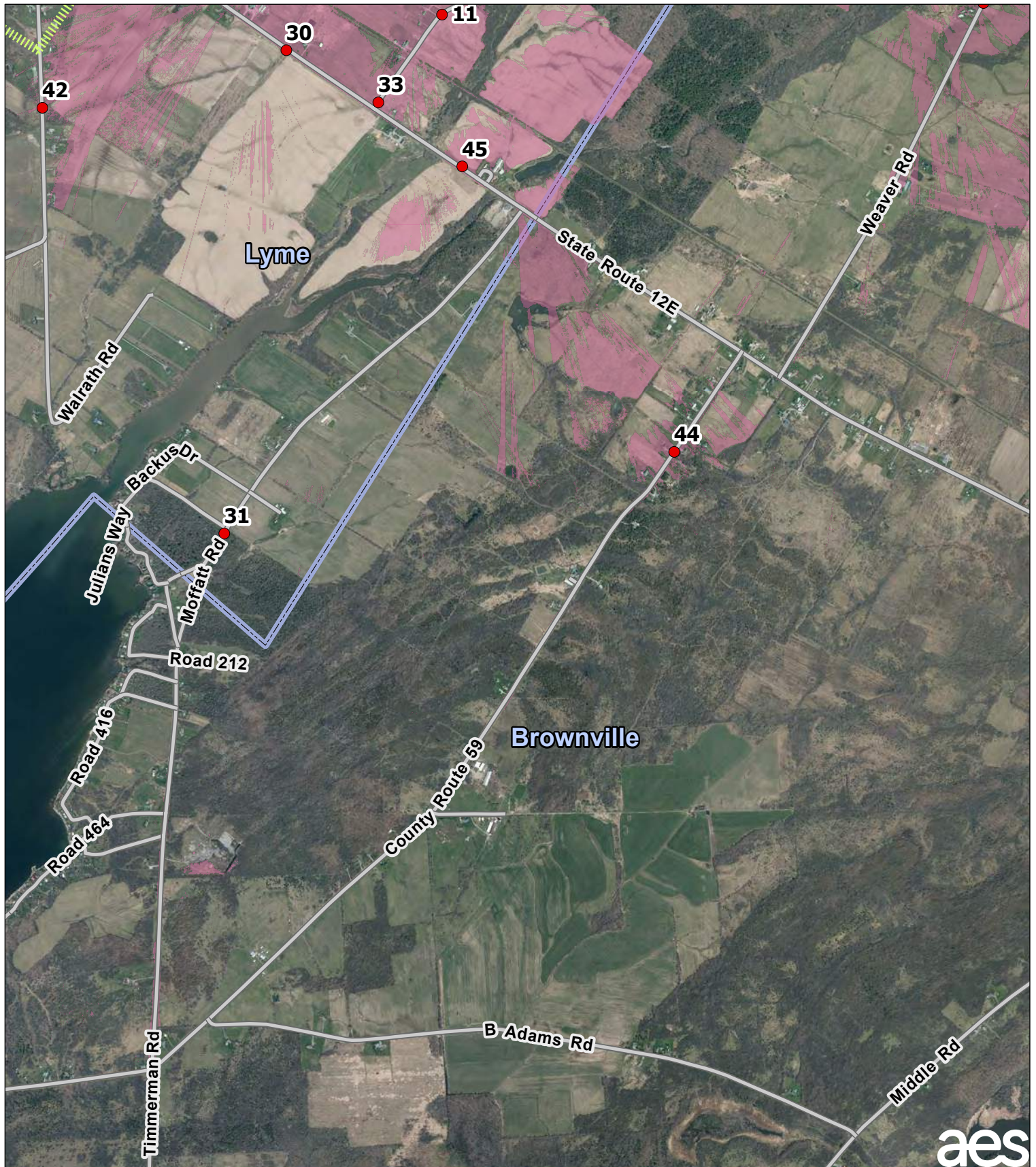


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A4

Date : 4/22/2021

aes



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

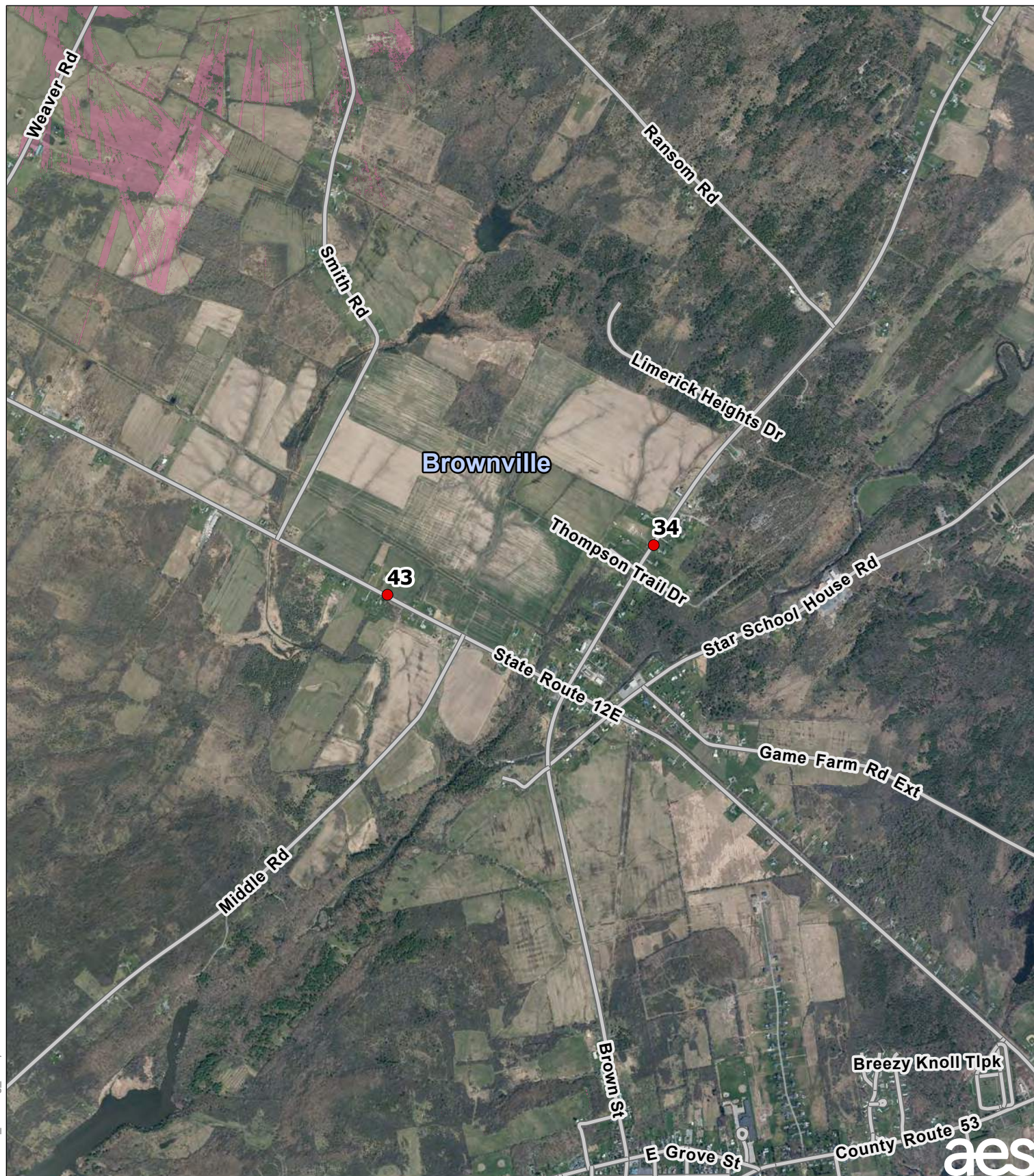
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Miles



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A5

Date : 4/22/2021



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

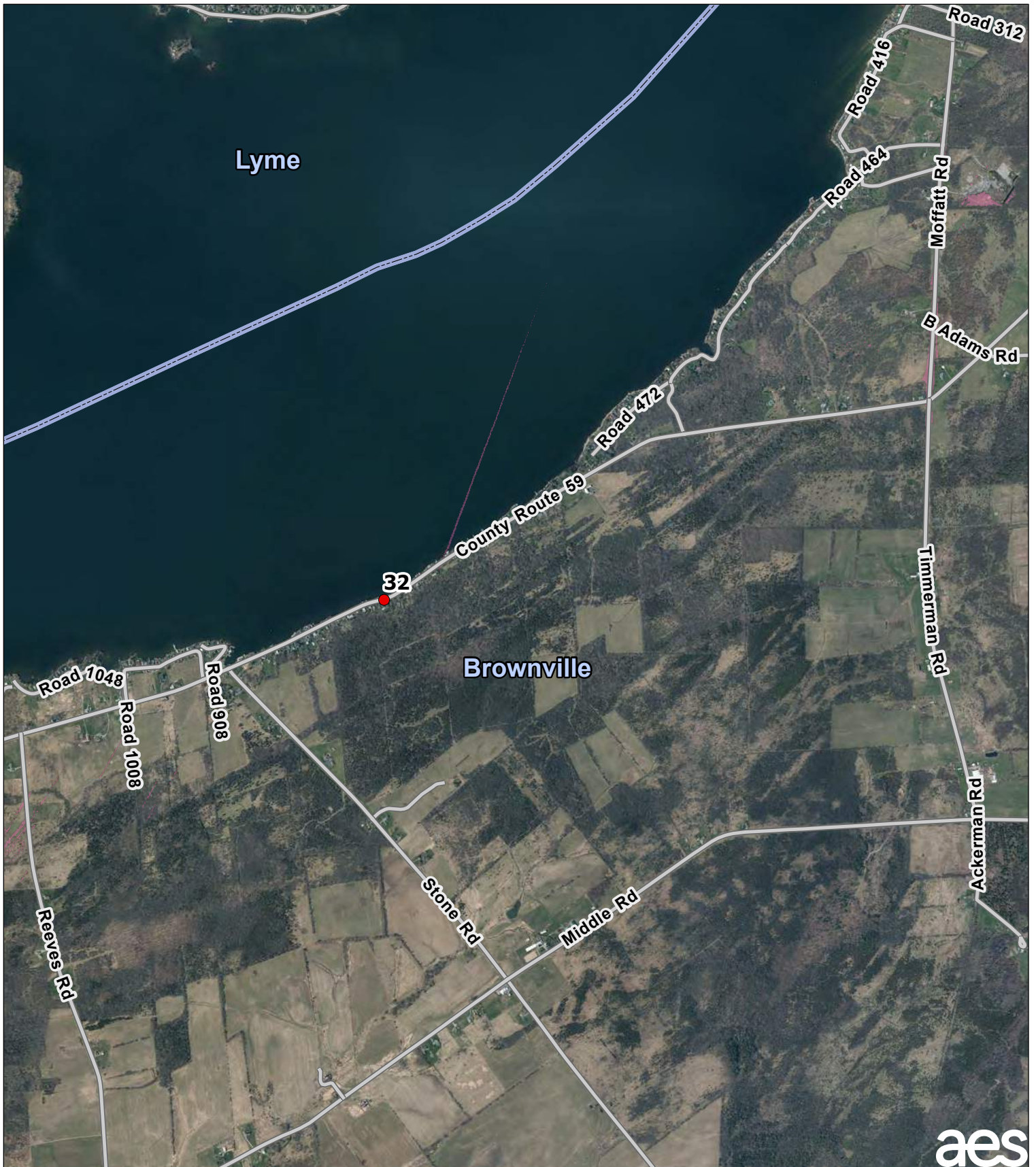
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Miles



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A6

Date : 4/22/2021



aes

- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- FENCE LINE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY*
- ▨ VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Visibility analysis that includes trees and buildings is provided as it is the most accurate representation of landscape conditions

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

PHOTO VIEWPOINTS
MAP A7

Date : 4/22/2021

VIEWPOINT 1



NNW



NNE



NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06131 -76.07129	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 2



WSW



W



WNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.08192 -76.05575	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 3



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Brownville	1,2	3/19/2021	44.08432 -76.06894	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

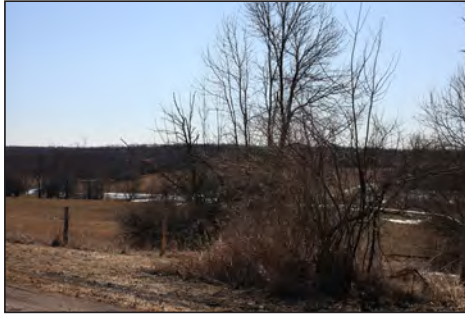
Sheet 1 of 16



VIEWPOINT 4



SE



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Brownville	1,2	3/19/2021	44.08404 -76.07157	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 5



S



SSW



WSW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1	3/19/2021	44.08291 -76.07696	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 6



S



SSW



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1	3/19/2021	44.08176 -76.08094	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 2 of 16



VIEWPOINT 7



E



ESE



SSE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,2	3/19/2021	44.07078 -76.11640	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 8



NE



ENE



E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	1,2	9/18/2020	44.07035 -76.11776	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 9



E



SE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,2	3/19/2021	44.06792 -76.12057	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 3 of 16



VIEWPOINT 10



NNE



E



SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125, Donaldson Memorial Ball Field	Town of Lyme	1,3,4	3/19/2021	44.06588 -76.12202	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 11



NNW



N



NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.05783 -76.10225	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 12



NE



N



NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	1	3/19/2021	44.05870 -76.09973	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 4 of 16



VIEWPOINT 13



WSW



W



NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	1	3/19/2021	44.06045 -76.09626	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 14



NE



ENE



E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Bar Z Farm	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06245 -76.09250	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 15



NE



E



SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Bar Z Farm	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06280 -76.09140	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 5 of 16



VIEWPOINT 16



NE



E



SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06206 -76.08961	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 17



W



NNW



NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.06153 -76.08035	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 18



WNW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.06028 -76.06016	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 6 of 16



VIEWPOINT 19



WNW



NW



NNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.06106 -76.06492	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 20



WNW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06257 -76.07105	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 21



W



NW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.06804 -76.06889	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 7 of 16



VIEWPOINT 22



SW



WSW



W

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.06913 -76.06752	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 23



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Vanalstyne Road, The Nature Conservancy, Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Town of Clayton	1,2	3/19/2021	44.09694 -76.07422	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 24



S



SW



WSW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125, Reynolds Corner	Town of Clayton	1,3	3/19/2021	44.09051 -76.04174	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 8 of 16



VIEWPOINT 25



SSE

S

SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 54	Town of Clayton	1,3	3/19/2021	44.10679 -76.05570	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 26



S

S

SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 54, Depauville	Town of Clayton	3	9/18/2020	44.13866 -76.06828	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 27



SE

SSE

S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 179	Town of Lyme	4	9/18/2020	44.07631 -76.12825	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 28



NE

E

SE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Chaumont Historic District, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	3	9/18/2020	44.06756 -76.13101	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 29



NNE

NE

E

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme, Village of Chaumont	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06077 -76.11964	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 30



N

NNE

NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.05643 -76.11098	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 10 of 16



VIEWPOINT 31



N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Moffatt Road	Town of Lyme	1,2	9/18/2020	44.03699 -76.11460	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 32



NNW

N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 59	Town of Brownville	5	9/18/2020	44.00753 -76.14926	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 33



NW

N

NNE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Case Road, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.05431 -76.10586	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 11 of 16



VIEWPOINT 34



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 180	Town of Brownville	3	9/18/2020	44.03485 -76.04244	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 35



SW



WNW



NW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Witt Road	Town of Brownville	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06023 -76.05059	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 36



WNW



NW



NNW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1	3/19/2021	44.05817 -76.07205	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 37



NE



E



ESE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Weaver Road	Town of Brownville	1,3	3/19/2021	44.06605 -76.07043	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 38



SE



SSE



S

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,5	3/19/2021	44.07902 -76.08952	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 39



SSE



S



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,2,5	3/19/2021	44.07673 -76.09780	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 13 of 16



VIEWPOINT 40



S



SSW



SW

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.07247 -76.10789	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 41



NE



ENE



ESE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
Morris Tract Road, County Route 125	Village of Chaumont Town of Lyme	3	3/19/2021	44.06398 -76.12451	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 42



N



NNE



ENE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 125	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.05417 -76.12462	Jefferson

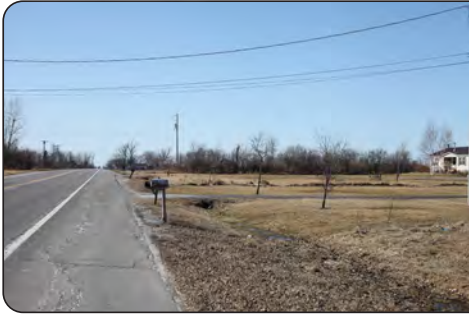
Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 14 of 16



VIEWPOINT 43



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Brownville	3	3/19/2021	44.03294 -76.05723	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 44



NNW



N



NE

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
County Route 59	Town of Brownville	3	3/19/2021	44.04017 -76.08946	Jefferson

VIEWPOINT 45



NW



NNW



N

Location:	Municipality:	LSZ:	Photo Date:	Lat/Long	County:
State Route 12E, Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	Town of Lyme	1,3	3/19/2021	44.05171 -76.10120	Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 15 of 16



VIEWPOINT 46



ESE



SE



S

Location:

Vanalstyne Road,
The Nature Conservancy,
Chaumont Barrens
Preserve

Municipality:

Town of Clayton

LSZ:

4

Photo Date:

3/19/2021

Lat/Long

44.10154
-76.07406

County:

Jefferson

Photo Log

Riverside Energy Project
Towns of Brownville & Lyme, NY

Sheet 16 of 16



From: superaubertine@townoflyme.com
To: Guariglia, John
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Riverside Solar - Town of Lyme Simulation Requests
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 9:13:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

This is an **EXTERNAL** email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you John...

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Riverside Solar - Town of Lyme Simulation Requests
From: "Guariglia, John" <JGuariglia@trccompanies.com>
Date: Wed, June 30, 2021 2:55 pm
To: "superaubertine@townoflyme.com" <superaubertine@townoflyme.com>
Cc: Eric Will <Eric.will@aes.com>, "Kranes, Samantha" <SKranes@trccompanies.com>

Good afternoon Scott.

I wanted to follow-up on our site visit and a previous email exchange from Barton & Loguidice.

Per our site visit, it was asked that the following photo locations be considered for simulations:

Locations 6, 11, 12, 16, 30, and 40. In addition, a location within the Memorial Field was also asked for.

We are studying these locations for simulations and will do our best to be responsive to your wishes while still being able to comply with the ORES 94-c Exhibit 8 requirements.

Many thanks for all your time.

John

John Guariglia, RLA
Visualization Services Manager

****Please note that I am currently working remotely and can be reached at 315.657.2678****



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.671.1600 | C 315.657.2678 | JGuariglia@trccompanies.com
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | TRCcompanies.com

From: [Guariglia, John](#)
To: superaubertine@townoflyme.com
Cc: [Eric Will](#); [Kranes, Samantha](#)
Bcc: [Masterson, Barry](#)
Subject: AES Riverside Solar Aesthetic Resource Request
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 8:39:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[ORES.jpg](#)

Good morning Scott –

As discussed last week (5/24/2021) during my visit, I was hoping that you could provide some assistance, or verification, of the aesthetic resources TRC has compiled to date. This is a working list, as resources may be added/subtracted, as appropriate, during the completion of the Visual Impact Assessment. Per the guidelines set forth by the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), TRC is to identify aesthetic resources, within 2 miles of the project, that pertain to the categories in the attached JPG.

Based on those categories TRC has identified the following:

Map ID	Resource Name	Town/Village
Listed Historic District		
N/A	Point Salubrious Historic District (USN 04513.000171)	Lyme
N/A	Chaumont Historic District (USN 04548.000116)	Lyme
Listed Historic Sites Not in a District		
A	Grange Hall and Dairymen's League (USN 04548.000039)	Village of Chaumont
B	Leray-Clark House/Evans-Gaige/Dillenback (USN 04548.000001)	Village of Chaumont
C	Chaumont House (USN 04548.000003)	Village of Chaumont
D	George House (USN 04548.000037)	Village of Chaumont
E	George Brothers Building (USN 04548.000038)	Village of Chaumont
Eligible Historic Sites		
	Washington St. (USN 04548.000072)	Village of Chaumont
	St. Paul's ME Church (USN 04548.000034)	Village of Chaumont
	Washington St. (USN 04548.000071)	Village of Chaumont
	NY 12E (USN 04548.000100)	Village of Chaumont
	Water St. (USN 04548.000069)	Village of Chaumont
	Water St. (USN 04548.000070)	Village of Chaumont
	Washington St. (USN 04513.000127)	Lyme
	Washington St. (USN 04513.000126)	Lyme
	Washington St. (USN 04513.000125)	Lyme
	Water St. (USN 04513.000122)	Lyme
	Water St. (USN 04513.000123)	Lyme
	Water St. (USN 04513.000124)	Lyme
Local and State Parks/Recreation		
TBD	Walt Putnam Memorial Field	Lyme
TBD	Chaumont Yacht Club	Village of Chaumont
TBD	Lyme Rod and Gun Club	Lyme
TBD	Chaumont Bay	Lyme
TBD	Lyme Lane	Village of Chaumont
TBD	Memorial Park	Village of Chaumont
1	Veterans Memorial Public Park (under construction)	Village of Chaumont
2	Bearup Marine / Crescent Yacht Club	Village of Chaumont
3	Lyme Central School and Playing Fields	Village of Chaumont

4	Chaumont Bay Marina	Village of Chaumont
5	Local Park	Village of Chaumont
6	Chaumont River RV Park & Campground	Lyme
7	Village of Chaumont Public Beach	Village of Chaumont
8	NYS Chaumont Boat Launch	Village of Chaumont
9	Independence Point	Lyme
10	Bay Breeze Golf Links	Lyme
11	G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field	Lyme
N/A	Chaumont Barrens Preserve	Clayton, Lyme
N/A	Limerick Cedars Preserve	Brownville
Cemeteries		
13	Cedar Grove Cemetery	Village of Chaumont
14	Barnes Bay Cemetery	Village of Chaumont
15	Freeman Cemetery	Lyme
Scenic Byways		
N/A	NYS Route 12E / Great Lakes Seaway Trail	Brownville, Lyme, Village of Chaumont
Bikeways and Trails		
N/A	Snowmobile Trails (trail C5J)	Brownville, Clayton, Lyme, Village of Chaumont

For the locations (with the exceptions of those identified with a TBD) of those noted above, please refer to the maps previously provided.

As requested above and discussed last week, we are hoping that you may be of assistance in the identification of those resources of aesthetic value that we may have missed or that could be important to the Town (as identified in the attached). If the list above is appropriate and no others are needed to be identified, please let us know so.

If you could kindly respond either way by Friday June 4th 2021, it would be appreciated.

Best,

John

John Guariglia, RLA

Visualization Services Manager

****Please note that I am currently working remotely and can be reached at 315.657.2678****



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.671.1600 | **C** 315.657.2678 | JGuariglia@trccompanies.com
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Stephen B. Le Fevre
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] AES Riverside, Visual Outreach Request
Attachments: Riverside_Bville PB Visual Outreach 05.4.21.pdf

Steve,

Yes, the outreach packages also went to the Town of Brownville. Here is a copy of what was sent to the Planning Board Chair, Ronald McGregor.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | [TRCcompanies.com](#)

From: Stephen B. Le Fevre <slefevre@bartonandloguidice.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 10:14 AM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AES Riverside, Visual Outreach Request
Importance: High

This is an **EXTERNAL** email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Samantha,

Did you provide a similar visual outreach package to the Town of Brownville? If so, can you please provide me with a copy? Thanks!

Steve

Stephen B. Le Fevre, P.G., C.P.G.
Senior Managing Hydrogeologist
Environmental

Barton&Loguidice
Office: 518.218.1801
Mobile: 518.369.9290

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From: superaubertine@townoflyme.com [mailto:superaubertine@townoflyme.com]
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:14 PM
To: Julie Gosier <mailman5@tds.net>; Don Councilman/Bourquin <depsuperbourquin@townoflyme.com>; Dan Villa <danvil@tds.net>; Terry Countryman <tcountry@twcnny.rr.com>
Cc: Ariana Henderson <lymetownclerk@townoflyme.com>; Bill Johnson <wjohns20@twcnny.rr.com>; Robin Grovesteen <clerktosuper@townoflyme.com>; Joseph Russell <JRussell@barclaydamon.com>; Diane Collette <DCollette@barclaydamon.com>; Richard Ingerson <ZEOIngerson@townoflyme.com>; Stephen B. Le Fevre <slefevre@bartonandloguidice.com>
Subject: [FWD: AES Riverside, Visual Outreach Request]

ATTENTION --> This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

FYI...

----- Original Message -----

Subject: AES Riverside, Visual Outreach Request
From: "Kranes, Samantha" <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Date: Mon, April 26, 2021 1:19 pm
To: "superaubertine@townoflyme.com" <superaubertine@townoflyme.com>
Cc: "Bartos, Judith" <JBartos@trccompanies.com>, Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>, Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>, Eric Will <Eric.will@aes.com>

Mr. Aubertine,

Attached please find an information request regarding the Riverside Solar Project. We are requesting input from the Town of Lyme regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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Kranes, Samantha

From: Kranes, Samantha
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES)
Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES); Brett Hastings; Bartos, Judith; Joshua Baird; James Muscato; Jessica Klami
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach
Attachments: Fig 1 Site Location Revised 042621.pdf; Fig 4 Visual Resources Revised 042621.pdf

Rudyard,

Per your request, please find attached revised mapping showing the location of interconnection/substation for the Riverside Project. The proposed substation is embedded somewhat in the interior of the site and away from public roads, as shown on the revised Figure 1. See revised Figure 1. Views from the closest western public road, State Highway 12E, will be a mile away from the substation location. However, viewpoints (VPs) 29, 30 and 33 show photo coverage of the substation area. There is also photo coverage of the substation area from the closet public road to the south (Case Rd) represented by VP11-VP13. Minimal or no views are expected farther from the north and east as the substation location is surrounded by mature trees.

The existing substation is not associated with the Project. Our Project's collection substation will interconnect via a new tap to the existing Lyme to Lyme Tap 115 kV line (existing right-of-way [ROW] shown).

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:11 PM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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You are welcome.

From: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:09 PM

To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Rudyard,

Thank you for your quick response. We will get you the additional information requested as soon as possible.

Samantha

Samantha Kranes

Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088

T 315.362.2415 | **F** 315.451.7903 | **C** 518.396.0914

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From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:47 PM

To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Good Afternoon Ms. Kranes;

Thank you for your email received this afternoon.

The document you provided today does not indicate the location of substation/point-of-interconnection, which likely has the tallest components in the project and may warrant specific consideration. Please provide a map as soon as you can showing the substation/point-of-interconnection in relation to the project site and visual receptors and projected area of visibility. Photographs of the POI location would also be helpful if available.

There's an existing NMPC substation nearby but it does not appear to be within the indicated facility site. Will this be associated with your project?

If you have any questions regarding this email, I would be happy to assist.

Most Respectfully,

Rudyard.

From: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:05 PM

To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>

Subject: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Mr. Edick,

Attached please find an information request regarding the AES Riverside Solar Project. We are requesting input from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

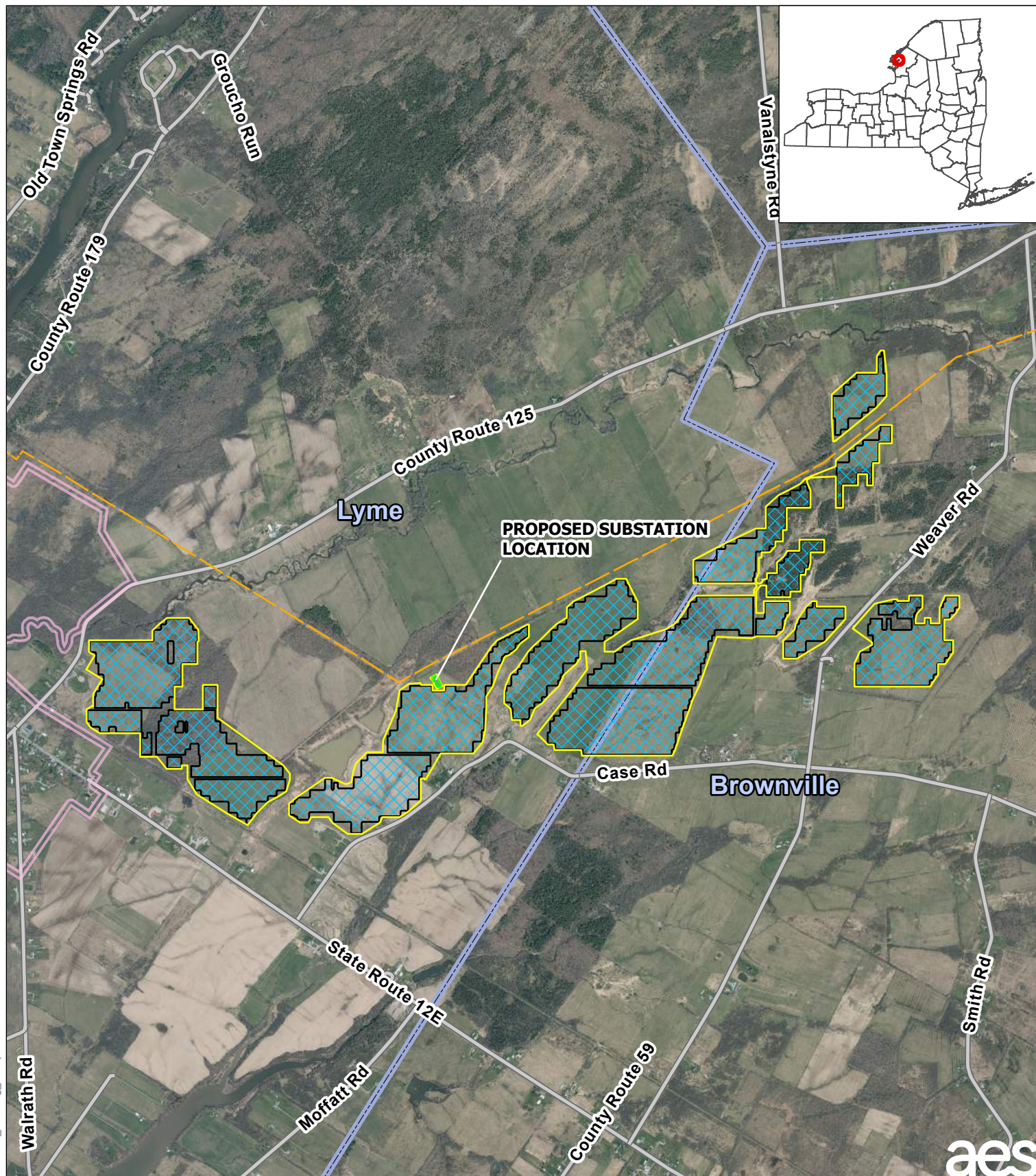
Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying directly to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

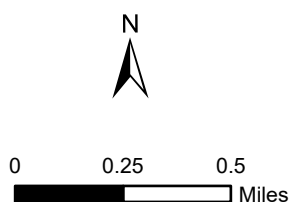
Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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- FENCE LINE
- PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- PROPOSED SUBSTATION LOCATION
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION



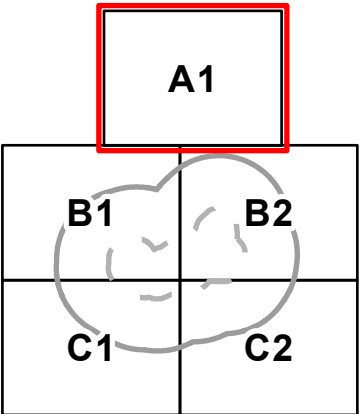
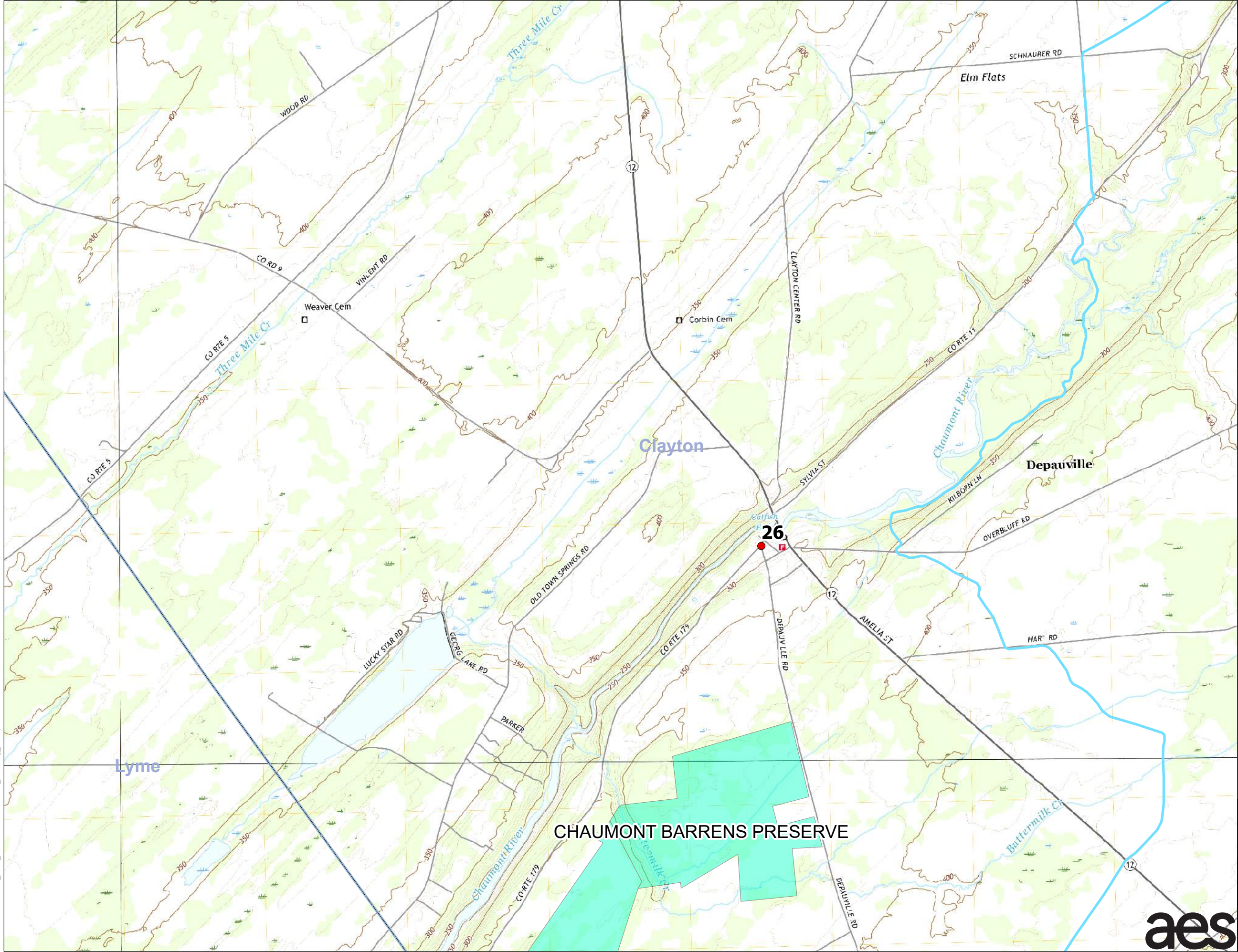
RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

SITE LOCATION MAP

FIGURE 1

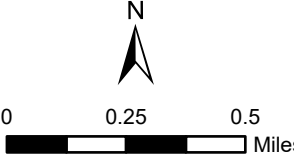
Date : 4/26/2021

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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- ▣ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- PROPOSED SUBSTATION LOCATION
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION
- ┌┐ HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- ▭ TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- 🌲 LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- SNOWMOBILE TRAIL
- PRESERVE
- ▲ LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ▲ ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

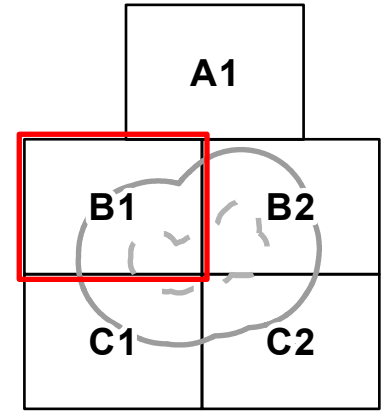
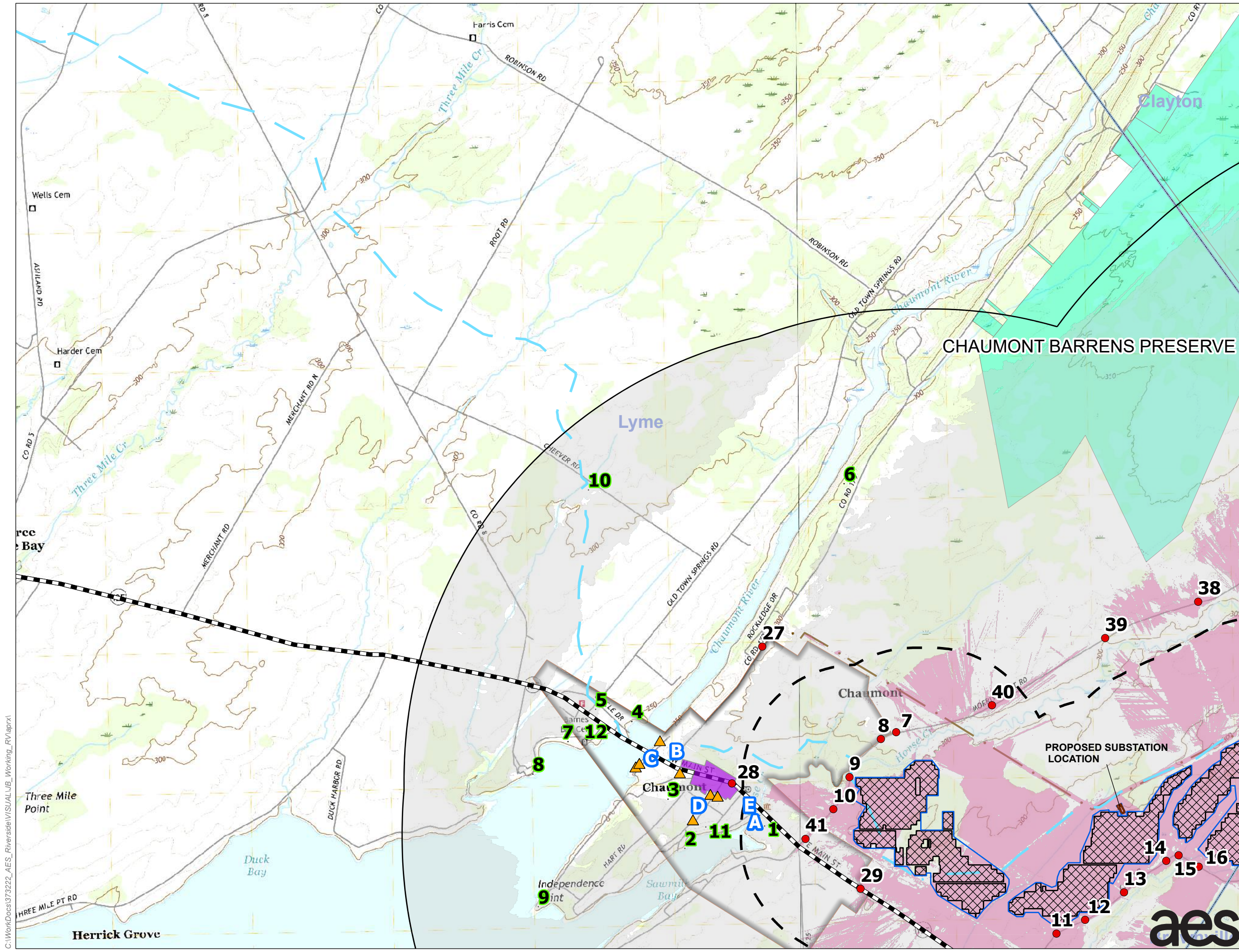
* Please refer to Table 1 in report for corresponding name and ID



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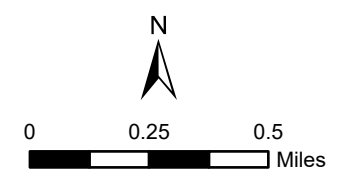
POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND VISUAL
RESOURCES

FIGURE 4



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- PROPOSED SUBSTATION LOCATION
- - - EXISTING TRANSMISSION
- [] HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- [] TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- 🌳 LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- SNOWMOBILE TRAIL
- PRESERVE
- ▲ LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ▲ ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

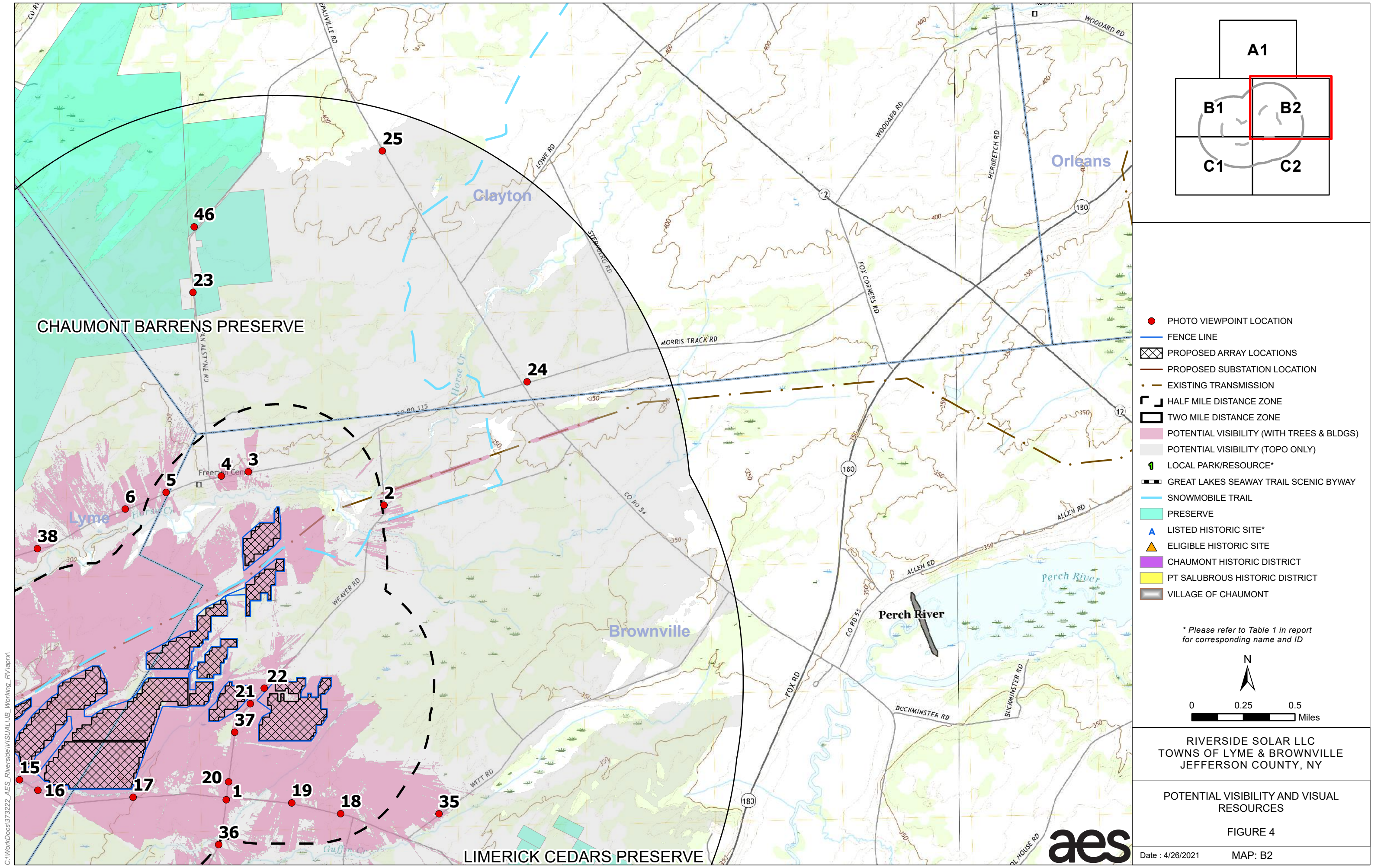
* Please refer to Table 1 in report for corresponding name and ID



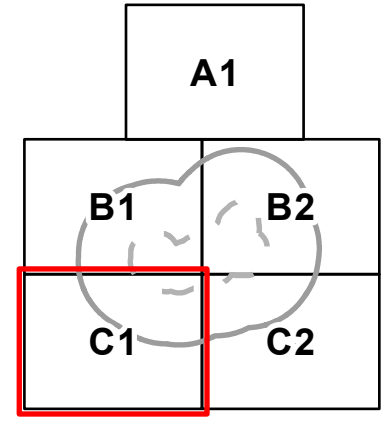
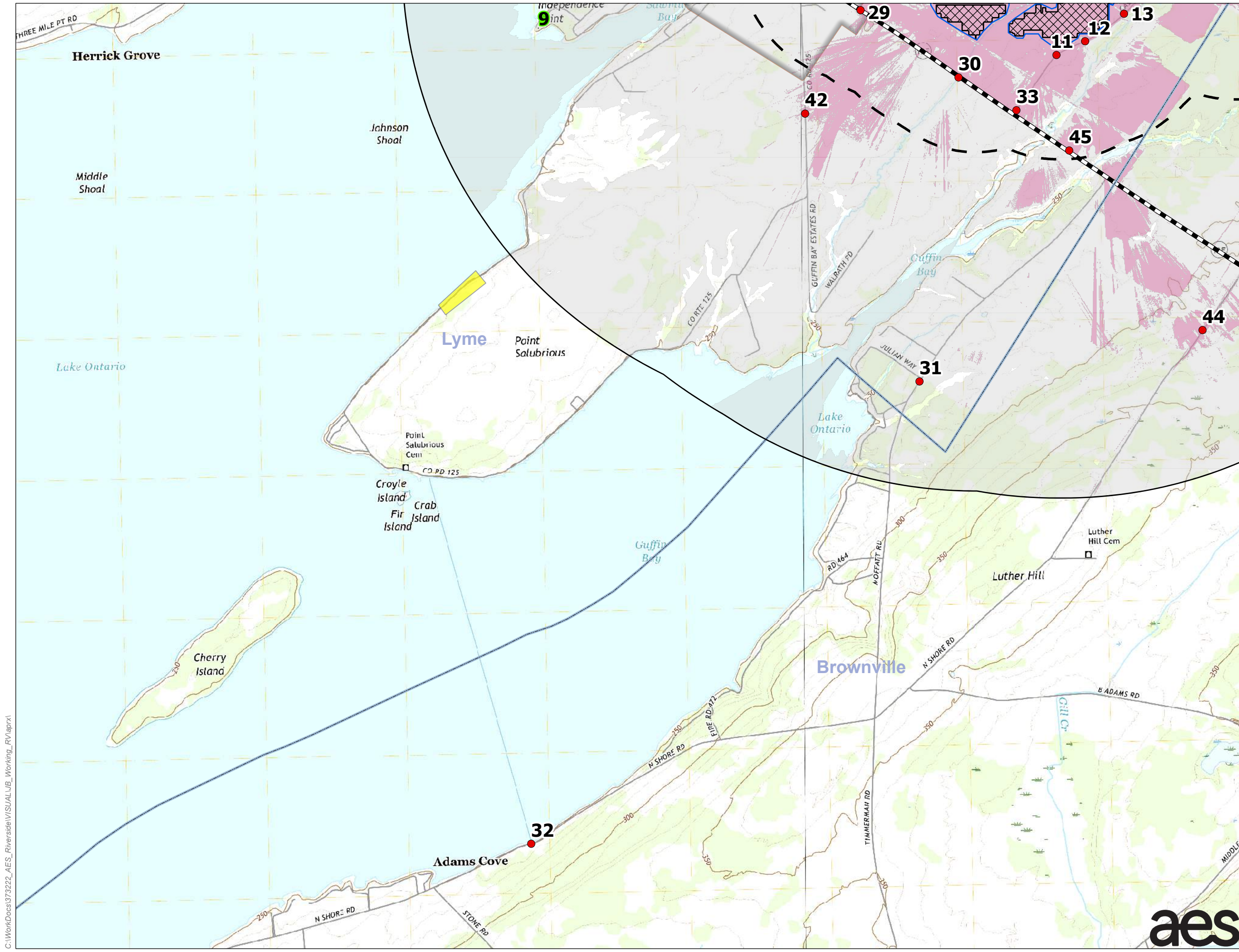
RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND VISUAL
RESOURCES

FIGURE 4

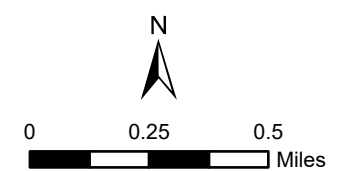


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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATION
- FENCE LINE
- ▨ PROPOSED ARRAY LOCATIONS
- PROPOSED SUBSTATION LOCATION
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION
- ┌ ┐ HALF MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- ▭ TWO MILE DISTANCE ZONE
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (WITH TREES & BLDGS)
- POTENTIAL VISIBILITY (TOPO ONLY)
- 🌳 LOCAL PARK/RESOURCE*
- GREAT LAKES SEAWAY TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- SNOWMOBILE TRAIL
- PRESERVE
- ▲ LISTED HISTORIC SITE*
- ▲ ELIGIBLE HISTORIC SITE
- CHAUMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT
- PT SALUBROUS HISTORIC DISTRICT
- VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT

* Please refer to Table 1 in report for corresponding name and ID

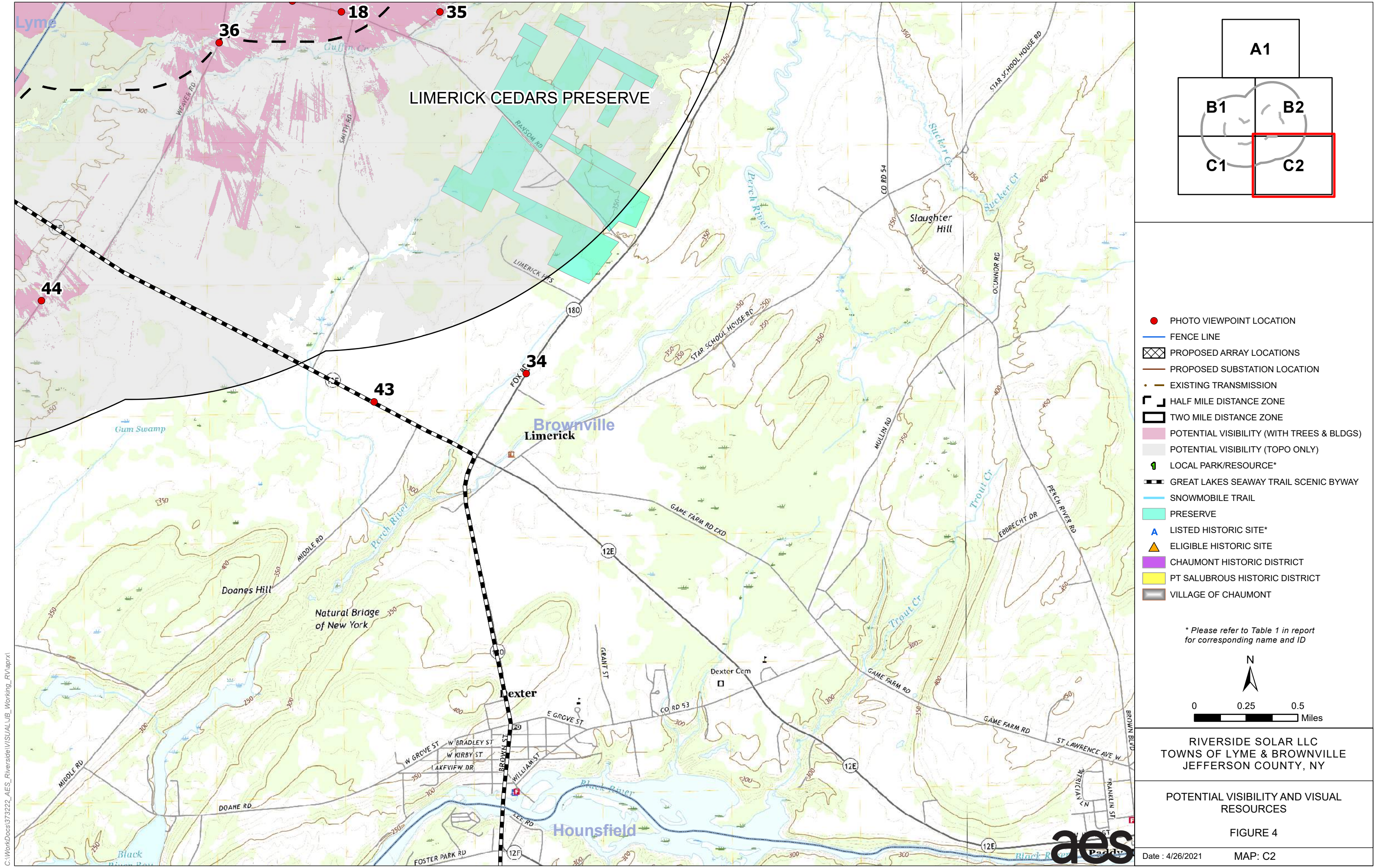


RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC
TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

POTENTIAL VISIBILITY AND VISUAL
RESOURCES

FIGURE 4





From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 9:50 AM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Good Morning Samantha,

In accordance with 19 NYCRR §900-1.3, the Office of Renewable Energy Services (Office or ORES) has reviewed the materials referenced below, and provides the following comments to Riverside Solar, LLC (Applicant or Riverside Solar). The Applicant is encouraged to complete any remaining consultation with municipal officials and other required parties on this topic, in compliance with 19 NYCRR §§ 900-1.3(a)(6) and 19 NYCRR 900-2.9(b)(3) and (4).

Overview

The “Riverside Solar VIA Survey Request and Progress Report”, and supporting documentation, for the Riverside Solar Project were provided to ORES on 29 April and 4 May respectively. This project is proposed for the Towns of Lyme and Brownsville, Jefferson County. The above documents were reviewed pursuant to request of TRC (consultant to Riverside Solar).

The survey provides information to form the basis of consideration for potential visual receptors, areas of visibility, landform and land use, proposed landscape similarity zones, historic resources, and potential scenic resources. Included in this was a photo-log of potential views to the project location, and mapping of resources and photo-locations. The Progress Report includes a list of potential visual receptor locations, defines terms including distance zones; identifies and characterizes Landscape Similarity Zones; and provides other information helpful in developing viewpoints appropriate for characterizing effects of project visibility on receptor locations and potential user groups.

Photo-simulation Viewpoints Selection

Generally, viewpoint selection should include attention to representing the range of view distances, directions, Landscape Similarity Zones, user groups, and potential numbers of

viewers, and duration of views, while also addressing concerns of the local communities affected by project location and potential degree of visibility. The Viewpoint photographs selected will be the basis for description of visual contrasts of the proposed development based on the nature and degree of change from the existing views. The photo-simulations of proposed screen plantings or other mitigation measures are also useful in designing such mitigation measures.

Local input should factor strongly into viewpoint selections for this project analysis. From a state regulatory perspective, the following viewpoint considerations and comments should be addressed in developing the VIA.

Photo-viewpoint 11 represents a foreground view from a local recreational resource – Donaldson Memorial Ball Field, which should be a strong candidate for selection as this site has potential for hosting community events.

At page 12, the Progress Report indicates that the Military Trail Scenic Byway (NYS Route 12E) is south/southeast of the Project. The Military Trail Scenic Byway is located further north along the St. Lawrence River. Route 12E in this location hosts the Great Lakes Seaway Trail National Scenic Byway, as indicated on Figure 3 and Figure 4 in the Visual Impact Survey Request at Attachment Figure 3 and Figure 4. There are several photographic viewpoints indicated along the Seaway Trail, including locations where Project visibility is predicted (Photo points 29, 30, 33, and 45: see Photo Viewpoints Map A3.) The Seaway Trail is a nationally designated scenic resource, and presents an important linear touring route in the project area. The Corridor Management Plan for the Seaway Trail provides descriptions of landscape character, and indicates several intrinsic features in this area (see <https://www.dot.ny.gov/display/programs/scenic-byways/Great-Lakes-SeawaysTrails>; Figure 2-10: Scenic Resources Zone VIII – Golden Crescent; and Figure 2-10: Intrinsic Resources Zone VIII; at. al). A series of photo-simulations depicting the sequential nature of a viewing experience of travelling either east-west or west-east through this area is strongly recommended, including simulations for the four photo locations as listed above.

The Comprehensive Plan for Lyme and Chaumont indicates several locations in the map entitled *Scenic Viewpoints and Roadways – Lyme and Chaumont* (Comprehensive Plan, May 2010), including a series of views along Morris Track Road/County Route 125. These locations are also noted in the Comprehensive Plan at the map entitled *Priority Character Areas*. Photo-viewpoints representing those locations should be selected where Project facilities are predicted to be visible.

To the extent that any properties or districts listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places may be determined to have views of the project facilities, including any leaf-off seasonal views, those locations should be represented in the final list of photo-simulations to be developed and assessed. Likewise, the Comprehensive Plan for Lyme and Chaumont indicates several “Locally Significant Historic Areas” at the *Local, State & National Historic Houses, Sites and Districts – Village of Chaumont* map, should be considered for analysis of project visibility and contrast rating as appropriate.

The April 26 “Survey Request” does not indicate the location of the Project substation/Point-of-Interconnection facilities. Consideration should be given to any photo-viewpoint that could be used to represent the POI and associated substation facilities, which tend to be the tallest components in photo-voltaic solar energy projects.

Furthermore, neither the “Visual Impact Survey Request” nor the “April Progress Report” provides consideration of proposed significant land use proposals in mapping or inventory descriptions for the Visual Study Area. There is another substantial solar energy project proposal located entirely within the Riverside Energy Visual Study Area including the northwesterly corner of the Village of Chaumont. The Village webpage identifies the project as the Norbut Solar Project, comprised of five large solar arrays and including energy storage facilities. The Norbut project location is generally within one mile of the Riverside Energy facility, and this proposed land use will need to be assessed in the context of 94-C regulations at §900-2.9(b)(4)(iv); as well as §900-2.4(L). To the extent that there may be areas of the Riverside Energy study area that have visibility of both the Riverside Energy and Norbut Solar projects, identification of and analysis from viewpoints representing cumulative effects of these two projects warrants consideration in the VIA. Information on the Norbut Solar project is available at the Village of Chaumont website at <https://www.villageofchaumont.com/document-center.html>; and project website at [Chaumont – Norbut Solar Farms](#).

Other comments:

Table 1, at page 7, of the April 2021 Progress Report, has a footnote “2” reference at ‘Listed Historic District’; but there is no accompanying footnote 2 below the Table.

If you have any questions or concerns on our comments and recommendations on your submittal, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

From: Krane, Samantha <SKrane@trccompanies.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 3:32 PM
To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Great, thank you!

Samantha

Samantha Krane
Senior Project Manager



215 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102, Liverpool, NY 13088
T 315.362.2415 | F 315.451.7903 | C 518.396.0914

From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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I will have the visual analysis feedback to you by tomorrow.

From: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:10 AM
To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Rudyard,

I hope you received the additional information you requested for Riverside and that it was helpful. Please note that it has come to my attention that I inadvertently left out the Visual Impact Assessment Progress Report in my original submittal to you. Please find that report attached. I hope this provides additional information that is helpful in your review; please let me know if you require additional time for review beyond 5/17/21 due to this oversight.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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From: Kranes, Samantha

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 4:07 PM

To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

Rudyard,

Per your request, please find attached revised mapping showing the location of interconnection/substation for the Riverside Project. The proposed substation is embedded somewhat in the interior of the site and away from public roads, as shown on the revised Figure 1. See revised Figure 1. Views from the closest western public road, State Highway 12E, will be a mile away from the substation location. However, viewpoints (VPs) 29, 30 and 33 show photo coverage of the substation area. There is also photo coverage of the substation area from the closet public road to the south (Case Rd) represented by VP11-VP13. Minimal or no views are expected farther from the north and east as the substation location is surrounded by mature trees.

The existing substation is not associated with the Project. Our Project's collection substation will interconnect via a new tap to the existing Lyme to Lyme Tap 115 kV line (existing right-of-way [ROW] shown).

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:11 PM

To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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You are welcome.

From: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:09 PM
To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Rudyard,

Thank you for your quick response. We will get you the additional information requested as soon as possible.

Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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From: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:47 PM
To: Kranes, Samantha <SKranes@trccompanies.com>
Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jklami@youngsommer.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

This is an **EXTERNAL** email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon Ms. Krane;

Thank you for your email received this afternoon.

The document you provided today does not indicate the location of substation/point-of-interconnection, which likely has the tallest components in the project and may warrant specific consideration. Please provide a map as soon as you can showing the substation/point-of-interconnection in relation to the project site and visual receptors and projected area of visibility. Photographs of the POI location would also be helpful if available.

There's an existing NMPC substation nearby but it does not appear to be within the indicated facility site. Will this be associated with your project?

If you have any questions regarding this email, I would be happy to assist.

Most Respectfully,

Rudyard.

From: Krane, Samantha <SKrane@trccompanies.com>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:05 PM

To: Edick, Rudyard (ORES) <Rudyard.Edick@ores.ny.gov>

Cc: Moaveni, Houtan (ORES) <Houtan.Moaveni@ores.ny.gov>; Brett Hastings <Brett.hastings@aes.com>; Bartos, Judith <JBartos@trccompanies.com>; Joshua Baird <joshua.baird@aes.com>; James Muscato <jmuscato@youngsommer.com>; Jessica Klami <jkلامي@youngsommer.com>

Subject: AES, Riverside Solar - Visual Outreach

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Mr. Edick,

Attached please find an information request regarding the AES Riverside Solar Project. We are requesting input from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) regarding the Applicant's selection of important or representative viewpoints for inclusion in the Section 94-c Application's Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). We kindly request your input by May 17, 2021. A hard copy of this consultation package can be provided upon request.

Due to file size, please confirm receipt of this document by replying directly to this email.

Thank you,
Samantha

Samantha Kranes
Senior Project Manager



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Attachment 7: Photo Simulation Contrast Rating

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

This form is a simplified version of various federal agency visual impact rating systems. It includes concepts and applications sourced from:

- U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Handbook H-8431: Visual Contrast Rating, January 1986
- Visual Resources Assessment Procedure For U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers, March 1988
- National Park Service Visual Resources Inventory View Importance Rating Guide, 2016
- USDA Forest Service (USFS), United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Landscape Aesthetics: A Handbook for Scenery Management. USDA Forest Service Agriculture Handbook No. 701, 1995

Depending on the project location, a variety of visual impact assessment (VIA) guidance and established procedures exist as noted above that apply to management of federal lands that fall under a specific agency such as the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. These guidance documents vary in regards to agency specific rating systems or procedures and often begin with the evaluation of existing conditions such as scenic quality or presence of sensitive resource locations.

This form has been developed by TRC for efficient and streamlined use with projects that undergo state environmental permitting processes. It is assumed that visual resource inventories, terrain analyses, development of landscape similarity zones or viewshed analyses have already been performed in the project VIA according to state regulatory requirements or other visual policy. This form was developed to be used as a numerical rating system for the comparison of Existing Conditions (Before) vs. With Project (After) photosimulations of final selected viewpoint locations and is meant to accompany the project VIA.

1. How to Use the Visual Impact Rating Form

For evaluating visual impacts there are two parts to the form. Part 1 is *Visual Contrast Rating* which rates the Project as it contrasts against compositional visual elements of the viewpoint scene. This includes compositional contrasts against the existing and natural environment such as vegetation, water, sky, landform, or structures. The higher the rating total the higher the contrast. Part 2 is *Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating*. This section rates the sensitivity of the viewpoint location which inherently considers the importance of the viewpoint (if it falls within a visual resource area), duration of view, if it is a high use area, as well as general scenic quality. The higher the rating total, the more sensitive the viewpoint is. Part 3 is an overall *General Scenic Quality of the View* which rates the view of existing conditions only, without the influence of the project.

The rating scale is as follows:

Rating Scale	
0	None
0.5	Very Weak
1	Weak
1.5	Weakly Moderate
2	Moderate
2.5	Moderately Strong
3	Strong

1.1. Degree of Contrast Criteria

None The element contrast is not visible or perceived.

Weak The element contrast can be seen but does not attract attention.

Moderate The element contrast begins to attract attention and begins to dominate the characteristic landscape.

Strong The element contrast demands attention, will not be overlooked, and is dominant in the landscape.

2. Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast: Form in this sense generally means the shape of an object or unification of shapes massed together by perceived pattern or color. In many rural undeveloped areas, the landscape may consist of homogenous or visually restful views of large shapes or shapes of color belonging to expanses of open field or forested areas. New project elements may provide a contrast or interruption against existing homogenous shapes within the view (strong). Conversely, there may be much visual existing clutter comprised of multiform shapes found in developed or urban areas where newly introduced project elements may better be visually absorbed in the view (weak).

Line Contrast: Line generally refers to the perceived edges of shapes as well as the orientation of these line edges. An undeveloped area at distance may be mostly horizontal line comprised of distant ridges or forest treetops as well as forest and field interfaces. New project elements may disrupt some of the line or they may introduce new vertically oriented lines as such as from a transmission line or wind farm (strong).

Texture Contrast: Trees and their leaves or buildings at close proximity will offer higher detail (strong). Texture and the level of discernible detail decreases with distance (weak). Objects at distance may appear as one homogenous texture or shape.

Color Contrast: Does the project color contrast greatly against color in the existing view (strong)? Color contrast may occur with the terrestrial background or the sky.

Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance: Is the project size and scale dominant (strong), co-dominant, or subordinate (weak) in the view in relation to the rest of the surroundings?

Broken Horizon Line: Does the project remain below the horizon line (weak) or is the horizon line broken by project elements (strong)?

Visual Acuity: Visual acuity is the acuteness or clarity of vision, most often related to the amount of discernible detail or contrast with distance. Atmospheric conditions may also decrease visual acuity, especially on hazy humid days.

Amount of Project Clearing Perceived: The With Project (After) simulation may show extensive clearing that has occurred compared to existing conditions, thereby showing a large visual change from the project (strong). In many cases, no clearing is required (none), or minimal clearing might be seen from a viewpoint location (weak or moderate).

Screening/Mitigation Needed: This category is treated in two ways. 1) Is the project at a particular viewpoint seen because of being mostly in the open which would require some type of vegetative or structural mitigation (strong) to obscure direct views? Conversely, is there some type of existing screening that blocks partial or whole views such as trees, buildings, or topography that act as visual impediments in the landscape (weak). Or 2) How important is it to mitigate at a certain area or how high is the visual absorption capacity? For example, there may be a clear unobstructed view of a new transmission structure in the view, but if there are existing transmission poles or cell towers, or distribution lines along the street in a more urban area providing similar utility development it may not be necessary to mitigate (weak). Is a substation being proposed where there is a clear view but within industrial development (weak)? Or, there may be visible modifications to an existing substation but proposed elements are visually absorbed by the substation because of “like” components and thereby requires no mitigation (weak).

3. Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating

Within a Visual Resource: Is the viewpoint located within a visual resource as listed in the Visual Resources Inventory section of the VIA? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If yes, then viewer expectations and sensitivity may be higher.

View of Other Visual Resources: Can you see a visual resource listed in the Visual Resources Inventory from the viewpoint location in combination with the project? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied.

A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality: Is the viewpoint located within a listed or known scenic area of visual quality? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If yes, this location would also be identified as a visual resource as listed in the Visual Resources Inventory section of the VIA. It is evaluated in the Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating because there are often town by-laws, master plans, or regional planning documents that call out specifically named locations that have been designated as a scenic viewing area and is important to note. It means that the location has added importance to the community and if yes, then viewer expectations and sensitivity are likely higher. This will be used infrequently.

Number of Viewers/High Use Activity: An area of high use and high number of viewer will incur a greater amount of visual impact to the community (strong). These areas may consist of high destination type locales visited by the public such as recreational areas, shopping centers, densely populated areas, or highways with large traffic counts. A roadway may not always be considered as high use. There may be viewpoints along local rural roadways that have relatively very low traffic counts. This category accounts for the immediate vicinity. For example the simulation might only show a roadway, but a resident may be very nearby or behind the viewer.

Duration of View: The duration of views is categorized as Long Duration (strong), Short Duration (weak) or Infrequent (weak). Residents or workers with views from the workplace or day long use at a picnic area would be a long duration view. Short duration views imply movement and are transient, such as passing the site on a highway, glimpsing a project from an open area on a hiking or snowmobile trail. A moderate duration view might be a destination type location such as a summit or historic landmark where the visitor seeks the location with purpose but only stays for a few hours. However care must be taken

when attributing an area to a short duration view. There could be short duration views encountered frequently over distance, such as a snowmobile trail.

Presence of Existing Development: For this category we are looking at intactness and how much the landscape has been altered by the presence of people. Is there much existing development consisting of commercial, utility, or industrial development or densely populated residential or urban neighborhoods in the photo or near vicinity? If so, then the sense of place or importance may be diminished and decreases viewer sensitivity as a place that does not have high value and should be rated as weak. Conversely, the lack of existing development contributes to the intactness of a more undisturbed natural environment a gives a sense of greater value. However, development is not all negative. Some development may have altered the environment but has only “somewhat” changed the view over time and may not be as visually impactful, such as a farm and associated farm fields. In this case, the Presence of Existing Development could be rated as moderate.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Rest of Study Area: Photographs for project simulations are generally taken within a designated study area. Landscape features or scenic quality in the study area shown in simulations may be found to be consistently similar or unvaried (weak). If the viewpoint shows a view that is unique to the area such as an outstanding water feature, a series of dramatic cliffs, or mountain views not typically found elsewhere in the vicinity then it should be rated as strong.

Presence of Water: Generally the presence of water implies greater scenic quality or importance. This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If there is the presence of water and it is not very discernible in the view, then a rating of 2 (moderate) can be applied.

4. Part 3 Scenic Quality of the View

This section rates existing conditions only, without the influence of the project.

Each landscape expresses unique scenic qualities. Scenic attractiveness indicates the potential of a landscape to produce varying degrees of satisfaction, of positive physiological responses; such as reduced stress; positive psychological responses; and a general feeling of well-being.

Please consider the following when assessing existing scenic quality:

- Note that a higher rating of scenic quality does not always have to be within natural or rural environments. This can also occur within urban or other man-made cultural type environments that consist of pleasing building structures, hardscaping, or landscaping.
- Landscape Diversity. The degree of existing scenic quality is usually correlated with landscape diversity – the more natural diversity, generally, the greater the scenic quality. For example, landscapes with greater diversity in vegetation and topography are more likely to be scenic than flat landscapes with uniform vegetation. Water features such as rivers or ponds tend to add diversity as do natural rock outcroppings. High scenic quality often results from the contrast among landscape features such as field and forest, steep and flat or rolling, village and countryside.

- Intactness. Another relevant factor in determining scenic quality is the intactness of the landscape. A lack of landscape degradation contributes to the “intactness” of the landscape. Landscapes where there is a clear underlying order or logic tend to be more visually appealing. Natural landscapes exhibiting little evidence of human alteration (e.g. an intact prairie landscape) are likely to have high visual as well as natural value. In the human (built) landscapes too much diversity can lead to visual chaos or clutter, for example strip development in which every business vies for one’s attention by looking different from its neighbor. But landscapes which retain 19th early 20th century landscape patterns, places with split-rail fencing or stone walls are often visually appealing in their simplicity and clear connections of use to the land itself.
- Focal Point. Focal points are elements in the landscape that stand out due to their contrasting shape (form), color or pattern. Often distinct focal points enhance scenic quality. They can be natural elements such as a lake, river or mountain; or they can be built elements such as an important public building, or a central green.
- Unity in a landscape provides a sense of order.
- Vividness is related to variety as well as contrast adding clearly defined visual interest.
- Coherence describes the ability of a landscape to be seen as intelligible rather than chaotic.
- Harmony exhibits a combination of parts of a landscape into a pleasing or orderly whole and a state of agreement, congruity, or proportionate arrangement of form, line, color, and texture.
- Pattern includes pleasing repetitions and configurations of line, form, color, or textures.
- *Strong values* might consist of areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural features combine to have unique and strong positive attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, harmony, uniqueness, pattern, and balance.
- *Moderate values* are generally areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural features use combine to provide ordinary or common scenic quality. These landscapes have generally positive, yet common, attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, harmony, uniqueness, pattern, and balance. Normally they would form the basic typical matrix within the study area.
- Weak values are areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural land use have lower scenic quality. Often water and rockform of any consequence are missing in these landscapes. These landscapes have weak or missing attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, -harmony, uniqueness, and balance.

5. Assessing the Outcome of the Rating

The rating system and those developed by the other aforementioned agencies are designed to guide a subjective process (visual observation) objectively, by using straightforward common language that involves the discussion of compositional elements. A rating system is applied from low to high with the intent to provide consistent comparison between or across subject matter.

The simulations will show varying distance zones and landscape zones. The rating is also meant to provide comparison of the project within these zones as seen across the study area. The rating form is not meant as a public survey or to assess or appeal to how one feels about the development at a more emotional level.

However, it should be noted that when evaluating the outcome of the ratings, a high rating of form or texture contrast for example, does not necessarily imply a negative or disturbing result. Nor may the project be offensive to the average person. As well, there may be visual impacts implied by the rating forms but they may not be adverse.

In many cases the building design or choice of building material can be aesthetic and visually pleasing to the viewer and/or remain consistent with other development in the area. With utility development for example, a battery storage facility that may have a high texture, line, or form rating that is proposed within a seaside environment may incorporate weathered cedar shakes, white trim, and dormers into the building design in order to remain similar to cape style houses in the area. Although compositionally it may have a high contrast rating against what is currently there, the project may be considered to be aesthetically pleasing and interesting to look at. Similarly, a converter building project in a rural area may elect to design the building to look like a red barn. Although the proposed building may provide a large form with new vertical elements against the current landscape, and its red color may contrast highly against either green vegetation or white winter snow, the design choice of a red barn could be considered aesthetically pleasing and suitable while also remaining consistent with other large development (farms) in the area. Or perhaps there are brick materials proposed as building materials or hardscape for a project which could be considered aesthetically pleasing and visually interesting. In the case of solar development, although a solar panel could provide color contrast, the look of a solar panel itself may not be displeasing. Although basic solar panel design cannot be changed, the project can be combined with vegetative mitigation of native flowering and pollinator species implemented and spaced in a naturalized manner resulting in overall aesthetic and interesting landscape screening.

The rating forms are not standalone nor are results provided without context. The rating results are typically accompanied by a summary discussion that considers project design aspects as noted in the above examples as well as how the overall project fits within the landscape.

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 6	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	The panels are located back into the distance below the horizon line to some degree. The arrays appear to be nestled in place drawing less attention and creating less contrast within the surrounding area.
Line Contrast	0.5	The arrays create a horizontal line or band in the distance that appears to reach or stretch across the majority of the view in an unnatural way creating some contrast.
Texture Contrast	0.5	The band or line of arrays appears to stretch across this view. The band appears smooth and man-made however, this effect occurs off in the distance creating less contrast in texture when compared to the existing vegetation that is present.
Color Contrast	0.5	The hard-black/grey band of panels contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the landscape however, the way the color is displayed in the image the contrast seems to be less impactful.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Distance and location in an open field in between woodland areas in conjunction with the panels being nestled into the rolling topography of the landscape helps to soften the size and scale and overall visual impact.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels due to location.
Visual Acuity	0.5	Little to no discernable details are present in this image and distance and existing vegetation and topography serve to reduce a good portion of the proposed structures and visual acuity.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No discernable clearing can be identified.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	The panels are visible from this location. However, they are located off in the distance with minimal visual impact therefore, some strategic/minimal visual mitigation/screening efforts may be needed to mitigate views.
Total	4	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Minimal residential structures are present in this area however, increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway which is adjacent to the solar arrays.
Duration of View	1	Although minimal residential structures appear to be present, long-term duration of views will most likely occur from a few of these structures/properties. Conversely, short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway however, because the solar arrays are not in close proximity to the road, the impacts during short-term views will be minimal.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Several residential and farm type structures are present in this area.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative of the area.
Presence of Water	0	No presence of water is discernable in this view.
Total	10	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project		Date: 20210709
Viewpoint Number: 6		Preparer: C. McElroy
Viewpoint Location: Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	.5	The installation is at a great distance from the viewer which sets low to the horizon line however a thin dark linear shape is evident.
Line Contrast	.5	The tops of the panels create a slightly darker line midway up the distant tree line. This is balanced by the horizontal line of vegetation at the edge of the field in the foreground.
Texture Contrast	0	The texture of the installation is very hard to notice at this distance.
Color Contrast	.5	The dark panels seem to bleed well with the dark tree line at this distance.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	.5	Even though the panels extend beyond the field of vision, the distance from the viewer is enough to create a sense of minimal impact.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The panel installation does not break the horizon line in this image.
Visual Acuity	0	The distance sufficiently obscures the clarity of the panels.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1.5	There is a moderate amount of clearing visible in the right side of the image.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	There is not a need for additional screening needed at this distance.
Total	3.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	There are three residences at this location as well as a low use farm road.
Duration of View	1.5	The residents will have long duration while people traveling on the road will have shorter duration views.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There are farm fields, far buildings and aboveground utility lines in the image.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1.5	This is typical and indicative of the general vicinity. However, a longer view can be seen.
Presence of Water	1	There are several drainages in the scene, but no standing water is evident.
Total	12.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2.5	The fields and distant rolling hills in the background generate a stronger value.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 6	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description: view southerly at northern side of Project near resident		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	Form recedes in view due to Project offset distance from road and provides weak contrast.
Line Contrast	0.5	Line contrast low due to similarity of horizontal line with horizontal field-background interface.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Textures not very discernible.
Color Contrast	0.5	Low profile shows panels below tree line. Color blends/is absorbed somewhat by the darker colors of the leaf off veg behind arrays.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Low profile arrays are very subordinate in the view. Size and scale of Project is small compared to other objects in the view. Project does not dominate view
Broken Horizon Line	0	None detected.
Visual Acuity	1	Not very discernible
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1	Moderate amount of clearing is noticed but does not drastically alter the view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0.5	Parts of Project is exposed in open land to road but offset distances and partial screening of existing trees minimize need for mitigation
Total	5.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	A point A to Point B travel road but is a local road with few (up to 3) residences in area
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Minimal, indicating low viewing capacity. Only existing transmission utility in mid ground and several buildings in far background
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	10.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	Restful pastoral view but also lacking in landscape diversity and typical of area.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 07/08/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 11	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The overall panel shapes are foreign to the existing surroundings creating contrast however, the significant amount of asphalt in this view does help to offset impacts.
Line Contrast	2	Line contrast is created primarily by the fence line and side angles of the solar panels, however, other lines defining proposed/new access roads help to soften over contrast/impacts in this view.
Texture Contrast	1.5	Texture contrast is present in this view as it relates to the natural vegetation however, the fencing and smooth panels blends in to some degree with the smooth asphalt road and finely graded soils.
Color Contrast	1.5	The amount of unnatural color related to the solar panels and fencing in this view creates contrast however, patterns of similar or like colors resulting from the various other types of materials present (such as the crushed aggregate and asphalt roads) exist throughout this view and help to minimize contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays and fencing somewhat dominate the landscape in this view however, the asphalt road and existing vegetation help to soften contrast impacts somewhat.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	2	A fair amount of discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and residential structures are located at this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate views.
Total	14	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	2	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Several residential structures are present in this area.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0.5	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0.5	No presence of water can be discerned in this view but, it should be noted that a drainage ditch is located within this view and can be identified by areal images.

Total	6.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210709	
Viewpoint Number: 11	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	A large dark massing of panels is present extending all the way across the image.
Line Contrast	2	The vertical lines introduced by the security fence and the undulating horizontal lines of the panel tops create a strong sense of contrast.
Texture Contrast	2.5	The tops of the panels above the fence appear as dark massing of scattered triangular shards.
Color Contrast	2.5	The light field, sky and gravel road contrast sharply with the dark panels.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	3	The installation seems to dominate the immediate area and continue into the distance.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line remains unbroken by the installation in this instance.
Visual Acuity	3	The chain link in the fence can be seen in this image.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	The site is currently an agriculture field with no additional clearing.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	There is a significant amount of screening needed at this location.
Total	18.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	There are a few homes along a rural road in this immediate vicinity.
Duration of View	2.5	There are several homes in this area that will have long durations of this view, while people traveling on the road will have less exposure.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There is a paved road with a fresh gravel road over a culvert and a transmission line in the background.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This is indicative of a rural farming community.
Presence of Water	0	There is no standing water in this image.
Total	5.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	There is a strong sense of value and low diversity in this image.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021
Viewpoint Number: 11	Preparer: J Bartos
Viewpoint Location: Case Road	
Viewpoint Description: view northerly on local road near a group of residences	
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	2.5	Newly introduced form of solar arrays are apparent due to proximity and are incongruous with the environment.
Line Contrast	2	New line is introduced but somewhat mimics horizontal aspects of topography and background trees
Texture Contrast	2.5	Arrays and fence as a group provide a texture on their own but texture of the actual panels and fence can be seen
Color Contrast	3	Background trees moderate somewhat, but color is different than what is in view and there is high contrast against light ochre colored field.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	Project vertical scale is moderate compared to background trees. Size and shape of Project and how it appears in spatial landscape makes the Project co-dominant in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	None seen.
Visual Acuity	3	Project is apparent in view due to proximity to arrays.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Although the arrays are on a low travelled road there are residences behind viewer with unobstructed open long duration views to the Project.
Total	18	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating

Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Local low travelled road near a small group of residences
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	1	None in view. Only existing transmission utility in mid ground. But there are several residences behind viewer.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4.5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	View of large open field but also lacking in landscape diversity and typical of area.
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 13	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone:		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The overall panel shapes appear unnatural and foreign to the existing surroundings creating contrast however, the man-made utility pole, guy wires, and overhead lines do help in making sense as to why these solar panel structures are found in this view.
Line Contrast	1.5	Line contrast is created primarily by the fence line and tops of the solar panels however, additional lines defining the roadway edge, and existing utilities parallel, complement, and offset the line contrast created by these new structures proposed in this view.
Texture Contrast	2	Texture contrast is present in this view as it relates to the natural vegetation found in the foreground of this view however, the fencing and smooth panels do seem to compliment the other existing man-made structures (utility pole/lines and edge of road) found in this view and seem to offset the impacts of contrast to some degree.
Color Contrast	1.5	The colors of the solar panels and fencing in this view creates is unnatural and creates contrast with the earth tones found present in the existing vegetation and soils however, the colors of fencing and solar arrays do blend in with the blue shades of the sky above in this view and help to minimize contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays and fencing somewhat dominate the landscape in this view – especially in relation to the existing trees in the foreground for comparison.
Broken Horizon Line	3	A large portion of the horizon line is broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	2	A fair amount of discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a residential structure is located at this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate views.
Total	17	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A few residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will most likely encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	A few residential structures are present in this area.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	1	No presence of water can be discerned in this view but, it should be noted that a fairly large drainage pond is located just beyond where the solar arrays are proposed to be installed within this view and can be identified by areal images.
Total	6	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210709	
Viewpoint Number: 13	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone:		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	The panels create a large dark massing across the center of the image.
Line Contrast	2.5	The long horizontal line introduced by the panels and fence create strong contrast with the trees and vegetation.
Texture Contrast	2.5	The sharp repetitive, regular, man-made shapes produce stark contrast with the natural textures of tree bark and grass.
Color Contrast	2	The panels in this configuration allow for some glare and atmospheric interference to lessen the intensity of the darkness of the panels.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Here we can see the edge of an installation that continues out into the field behind.
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	The horizon line is clearly broken by the panels across the entire view. There is a few trees and shrubs that break the horizon line up in the foreground.
Visual Acuity	2.5	The proximity to the fence line is very close. This lends to a very clear image of the panels and fence. The panel footings are visible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	This seems to cover an agricultural field that was already cleared land.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2.5	There will need to be a significant screening effort for this location.
Total	19.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	There are two farmhouses along a rural farm road in this vicinity.
Duration of View	1.5	The residents will have long exposure while the travelers on the road will catch just a short glimpse.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Overhead utility lines
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This is a fairly common sight along a rural farm road in the country side.
Presence of Water	0	There does not appear to be any water features in this location.
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	Disturbed land from agriculture, overhead powerlines and distant farm buildings creates a cluttered image.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 13	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description: view westerly on local road near a residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone:		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	Newly introduced form of solar arrays are apparent due to proximity and are incongruous with the environment.
Line Contrast	2	New line is introduced but somewhat mimics horizontal aspects of ground contour and other horizontal shapes such as field and sky
Texture Contrast	2	Fence and some panel textures are apparent but distance from view helps moderate the contrast.
Color Contrast	3	While color is somewhat similar to sky Project contrasts against light ochre colored field and what is currently there.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	Project vertical scale is low profile and has more lateral breadth across the view. Size of Project shapes and how it appears in spatial landscape makes the Project co-dominant in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	2	Yes. Project is consistent in breaking horizon line and blocks the background trees that are in existing view. But, vertical aspect of the Project is not high.
Visual Acuity	2.5	Project is apparent in view due to proximity to arrays. Road offset diminishes some detail.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	Although the arrays are on a low travelled road there are residences near the viewer with unobstructed open long duration views to the Project. Road offset helps moderate the view
Total	18	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Local low travelled road near few residences
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	No existing development that would indicate a high number of people thus a high number of views. There is utility development in the view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	View is of open field but shows roadside distribution in an unflattering way and there is large transmission line in back view.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 16	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The panel shapes and fencing appear blocky, angular, unnatural and foreign within the natural landscape setting creating contrast. Additionally, the over form of the array field itself feels out of place creating additional contrast.
Line Contrast	2	Line contrast is created primarily by the fence line and tops of the solar panels. The tree line in the distance softens the visual impact however, line contrast does exist through this view.
Texture Contrast	2	The smooth texture and feel of the solar panels and metal posts of the fencing creates a fairly strong texture contrast against natural vegetation found in the foreground and background of this view.
Color Contrast	2	The colors of the solar panels and fencing in this view stand out against the earth tones found present in the existing vegetation, soils, and blue sky creating contrast in this view.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays and fencing are evident in this view and dominate the landscape to a fair degree.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	2.5	Discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a few residential structures are located at this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate views.
Total	15.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A few residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will most likely encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	A few residential structures are present in this area.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No presence of water can be discerned in this view.
Total	5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210709	
Viewpoint Number: 16	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	The large dark massing of panels contrasts strongly with the light browns of the field and light blue sky.
Line Contrast	2.5	Many bold undulating horizontal lines are introduced by the panels and many vertical lines are introduced by the security fence.
Texture Contrast	2.5	The panels are close enough to make out individual cells that create an underlying pattern within the panels. The regular cadence of the fence lines can be clearly made out.
Color Contrast	2.5	The dark panels and light fence line introduce color outside of the palette of naturally observed colors.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	3	The panels stretch from one side of the view to the other and give the impression of continuing up and over the next rise.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The installation remains below the horizon line.
Visual Acuity	3	The panels are very close to the observer. This lends to a very with sense of visual acuity.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2	The horizon line on the right side of the view has been largely altered by the amount of clearing here.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	This location will need a great deal of screening.
Total	21	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	There is one farmhouse along a rural farm road in this immediate vicinity.
Duration of View	2.5	The residents will have long duration exposure while the travelers on the road will have short term exposure.
Presence of Existing Development	1	There is a transmission line in the distance and a farm outbuilding.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This is a common sight of field, tree line and farm in the rural region.
Presence of Water	0	There is no water in this image.
Total	4.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2.5	This is relatively intact landscape with strong value and low diversity.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project		Date: July 6, 2021
Viewpoint Number: 16		Preparer: J Bartos
Viewpoint Location: Case Road		
Viewpoint Description: view northeasterly on local road near a residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	Newly introduced form of solar arrays are apparent due to proximity and are incongruous with the environment.
Line Contrast	2.5	New line is introduced. Line somewhat mimics horizontal aspects of ground contour but appear in varying directions
Texture Contrast	2.5	Project as a whole provides a new patterned texture in the field along with lights and darks between the panels.
Color Contrast	3	Seeing the backside of bifacial panels that are angled down more to the ground which provides a darker shadow-like effect against existing light colored ochre field
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	While Project has some lateral breadth, vertical scale is very low. Size of Project shapes and how it appears in spatial landscape makes the Project co-dominant in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	No
Visual Acuity	2	Project is apparent in view due to proximity to arrays. Road offset diminishes some detail.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1.5	Project clearing is observed.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	Although the arrays are on a low travelled road there are few residences near the viewer. There appears to be a seasonal farm stand near the viewer
Total	17.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Local road but appears to be a seasonal farm stand near the viewer that may have neither a low or high number of viewers.
Duration of View	1	Short duration view for people at commercial farm stand.
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	No existing development that would indicate a high number of permanent residences. There is a large transmission line in the view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	View is of open field that is typical of the area and offers a sameness.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 29	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0	The panels are located beyond the fields in the foreground and behind an existing hedgerow allowing for very little to no views to occur and prohibiting any real contrast from occurring.
Line Contrast	0	The same note for form contrast applies to line contrast.
Texture Contrast	0	The same notes above apply to texture contrast.
Color Contrast	0	The same notes above apply to color contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0	The same notes above apply to project scale contrast.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels due to distance and location.
Visual Acuity	0	There is little to no visual acuity present due to distance and location of the solar panels.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2	A sizable amount of existing, mature, deciduous trees and other woody-type vegetation clearing can be identified.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	It appears that minimal strategic screening or visual mitigation will be needed in this view however, it should be noted that there are a number of residential properties and/or structures in close proximity and additional vegetation mitigation may need to be proposed in the relative nearby vicinity as a result.
Total	3	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	A number of residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	2	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	2.5	Quite a few residential structures are present in this area when compared to the surrounding area and seem to serve as a primary gateway to the local town/community nearby.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0.5	No presence of water can be discerned in this view but, it should be noted that a small pond or water source can be identified by areal images.
Total	14	

Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210709	
Viewpoint Number: 29	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	Although the solar panels and security fence are not visible in this view, the newly created dark form of the cleared vegetation creates dark shape where the treetops were cleared.
Line Contrast	1	The newly created horizon line creates a sharp edge line where an undulating line previously existed.
Texture Contrast	.5	The altered tree line creates mild contrast with the unaltered tree line presents.
Color Contrast	.5	The altered tree line is darker in hue and saturation which increases the color contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	Nearly half of the horizon line was altered which leads to a moderate sense of project scale in the background.
Broken Horizon Line	2	The project clearing dramatically changes the horizon line in nearly half of the image.
Visual Acuity	0	The panels and fence line are not visible in this image.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2.5	The horizon line changes dramatically with the amount of clearing shown.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	Screening should be used to generate a false continued horizon line from the existing tree line.
Total	10.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2.5	There are several homes along a higher traffic count road in this area.
Duration of View	2.5	There are many residents that will have long term views and travelers on the road that will have shorter length views.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There is a good deal of fencing and agricultural land use in this image.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	This view is typical in a rural community.
Presence of Water	1	There is standing water in the field in the image.
Total	14.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	The open sky and field with distant tree line have strong value and low diversity.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 29	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E/ Great Lakes Seaway Trail		
Viewpoint Description: view northeasterly on a state highway that is a NY scenic byway		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0	Extremely minimal to no Project visibility detected even during leaf off conditions. Project is behind middle ground hedgerow at far end of foreground field
Line Contrast	0	Same as above
Texture Contrast	0	Same as above
Color Contrast	0	Same as above
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0	Same as above
Broken Horizon Line	1.5	Horizon line has changed due to clearing but does forested aspect of landscape does not change
Visual Acuity	2	Clearing is apparent in this view
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2	There is more than the usual amount of clearing detected, compared to other simulations but is still moderate
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	Existing vegetation is present to screen views.
Total	5.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Yes. Great Lakes Seaway Trail Scenic Byway
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	State highway in a rural area with moderate number of viewers
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for drivers and longer duration views for few residences in area that have view of the Project
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	No existing development that would indicate a high number of permanent residences.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	No real or distinct waterbodies in view. Looks to be minor ponding of standing water.
Total	11	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	View is of open field with farm fencing with scrub brush field and forested area in background. Typical of area.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 30	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	The panels are located beyond the fields in the foreground and behind an existing hedgerow allowing for some views to occur but, prohibiting any real contrast from occurring except for in some locations.
Line Contrast	1	The same note for form contrast applies to line contrast.
Texture Contrast	1	The same notes above apply to texture contrast.
Color Contrast	1	The same notes above apply to color contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	The same notes above apply to project scale contrast.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels due to distance and location.
Visual Acuity	0.5	There is little to no visual acuity present due to distance and location of the solar panels.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No discernable clearing can be identified.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	Strategic screening or visual mitigation will be needed in this view.
Total	7.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A number of residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Several residential structures are present in this area along a roadway that approaches a small local town and community.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	3	A presence of water can be discerned in this view. Furthermore, it appears that wetland-type vegetation is present in and around this water feature as well.
Total	14.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210708	
Viewpoint Number: 30	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone:		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	Large linear massing of the panels can be seen stretching across the view.
Line Contrast	1	The clear horizontal lines introduced by the solar array are broken by vegetation in the foreground.
Texture Contrast	1	The smooth featureless mass of the panel's nests behind natural texture of field and vegetation.
Color Contrast	1.5	The darker grey shapes of the man-made solar panels creates moderate contrast with the light field and darker leaf off tree lines in the distance.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The installation stretches across the entire view but remains in the distance which lends to a diminished sense of scale in this image
Broken Horizon Line	0	The installation remains below the horizon line across the entire view.
Visual Acuity	.5	The great distance from the viewer to the security fence lends a weak sense of detail that is broken up by vegetation in the foreground.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	.5	There is minimal project clearing evident in this image.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	The left side of the image could benefit from additional screening.
Total	8.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	There are few residential homes in the immediate area that will have this view.
Duration of View	1.5	The residents will have longer duration views and the travelers on the farm road will have short duration view which creates a moderate score.
Presence of Existing Development	1	There is a culvert which could be a farm road or a railroad track in the foreground.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	This view is indicative of the type of view one would expect to see in a rural community.
Presence of Water	1	There is standing water in the drainage in the right side of the foreground in this image.
Total	11	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	This is a scene of a rural farm field with a culvert and standing water.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 30	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E/ Great Lakes Seaway Trail Scenic Byway		
Viewpoint Description: view northeasterly on a state highway that is a NY scenic byway		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	Minimal and partial, to no Project visibility seen even during leaf off conditions. Much of the arrays are screened by existing vegetation located in the middle ground of the view. What form is noted is very similar to the horizontal nature of the background trees, foreground ground contour as well as the row of shrubbery that blocks most of the view
Line Contrast	0.5	Line seen by the Project is similar to the horizontal nature of lines already in the landscape
Texture Contrast	0.5	Minimal to unnoticeable
Color Contrast	1	Contrast is weak mostly because much of the Project is not visible.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Project is extremely subordinate in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	None
Visual Acuity	1	Parts of Project can be seen but not much and road offsets moderates the view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None detected
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	There is much screening offered by existing vegetation
Total	4.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Yes. Great Lakes Seaway Trail Scenic Byway.
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	State highway in a rural area with moderate number of viewers
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for drivers and longer duration views for few residences in area that have view of the Project
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	No existing development that would indicate a high number of permanent residences. There is a large transmission line in the view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0.5	Small minor culverted unnamed stream.
Total	11.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	View is of open field with farm fencing with scrub brush field and forested area in background. Typical of area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 37	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Weaver Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The solar panel shapes appear as one large linear block that is unnatural and foreign to the existing surroundings creating contrast however, the man-made shed structure and play set offset the contrast and impact to some degree.
Line Contrast	1.5	Line contrast is created primarily by the fence line and solar panels however, additional lines defining the shed structure, animal pen, and play set reflect, mimic and offset the line contrast created by these new structures proposed in this view.
Texture Contrast	1.5	Texture contrast is present in this view as it relates to the natural vegetation however, the fencing and smooth panels do seem to compliment the other existing man-made structures and smoothness of the clear blue sky and offset the impacts of contrast to some degree.
Color Contrast	1.5	The colors of the solar panels and fencing in this view creates is unnatural and creates contrast with the earth tones found present in the existing vegetation and soils however, the colors of fencing and solar arrays do blend in with the trees during leaf off conditions and the tire pile present in this view minimizing contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays and fencing do “fit” somewhat into this view however, it is evident that these proposed structures in just beyond a residential setting and close enough to appear to somewhat dominate the space in this landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	2	A fair portion of the horizon line is broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	1.5	Some amount of discernable details of the fence line and solar panels are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a residential structure is located at this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate views.
Total	15	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A few residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	A few residential structures are present in this area.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No presence of water can be discerned in this.
Total	5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210708	
Viewpoint Number: 37	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: Weaver Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The panels create a large linear mass in the center of the image. The fence introduces a slightly larger mass that encompasses the panels.
Line Contrast	1.5	The dark horizontal massing of the panels intersects bold linear lines that obstruct vegetation in the foreground.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The dark smooth texture of the panels are broken up by the lighter fence lines. This is contrasted with the natural shape of vegetation and man made structures.
Color Contrast	2	The dark panels create a stronger contrast with the lighter fields and sky and vegetation.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The installation is close enough to impose a moderate presence in the image.
Broken Horizon Line	2	The panels do break the horizon line however this is supported by trees that maintain the horizon line on either side of the installation.
Visual Acuity	2	The fence is close enough to provide a higher level of clarity while the panels are at a great enough distance to be mostly one dark shape.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1	There appears to be minimal project clearing to include one larger tree on the left side of the image.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	There should be a substantial amount of screening provided to protect the view from the residences immediately behind the viewpoint.
Total	15.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	There are two residences in the immediate vicinity and a low traffic count rural road.
Duration of View	2	The residents in the two surrounding homes will have this view for extended durations while travelers on the farm road will have minimal exposure.
Presence of Existing Development	.5	This is a back yard of rural residences where playground equipment and outbuildings are located.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This is representative of the surrounding rural farm communities.
Presence of Water	0	There is no water features in this view.
Total	3.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	This scene provides calming pastoral views of rolling hills and natural vegetation.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 37	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: Weaver Road		
Viewpoint Description: view east near residences		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	Arrays are in view. Horizontal aspects of Project as they appear in view are similar to horizontal nature of landscape shapes in the view. Some of the Project is blocked by existing trees.
Line Contrast	1.5	Horizontal aspects of Project as they appear in view are similar to horizontal nature of landscape shapes in the view
Texture Contrast	1.5	Texture not very discernible. Parts of fence are noticeable.
Color Contrast	1.5	There is similar color and value in the view as that of the arrays. Project color contrasts are somewhat absorbed by the color/value similarities of existing landscape features
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	Project is low profile and subordinate in the view. There are other natural and man-made features in the view that have greater vertical contrast than that of the Project.
Broken Horizon Line	1	Project breaks horizon line in some places. Other places arrays are screened by existing vegetation. There are other natural and man-made features in the view that have greater vertical contrast than that of the Project.
Visual Acuity	1	Project can be seen but not details not very visible and arrays don't overwhelm view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2.5	There is more than the usual amount of clearing detected, compared to other simulations
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1.5	There is existing vegetation that screens views. Seeing how this is a backyard view some vegetative landscape could be added to moderate views where Project is visible.
Total	13.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Local road with low number of viewers (approximately 2 residences nearby)
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for drivers and longer duration views for few residences in area that have view of the Project
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	Evidence of residential area with children's playset and small shed-like outbuildings in view and a very large pile of tires.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4	

Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	Open land but average and typical of area with some evidence of residential disruption and very large stockpile of tires in view.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/8/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 40	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The panels are located beyond the fields in the foreground and behind an existing hedgerow. Some views of a larger portion of the array field do occur and creating some level of form contrast.
Line Contrast	1.5	The same note for form contrast applies to line contrast.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The same notes above apply to texture contrast.
Color Contrast	1.5	The same notes above apply to color contrast... especially with the amount of earth tone colors present in this view from the existing vegetation.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The same notes above apply to project scale contrast.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels due to distance and location.
Visual Acuity	0.5	There is little to no visual acuity present due to distance and location of the solar panels.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No discernable clearing can be identified.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	Strategic screening or visual mitigation will be needed in this view.
Total	10	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A few residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	A few residential structures are present in this area along a roadway.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	2	A presence of water cannot be discerned in this view. However, a stream is present and can be identified in aerial imagery.
Total	13	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project		Date: 20210708
Viewpoint Number: 40		Preparer: C. McElroy
Viewpoint Location: Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	The linear horizontal light grey massing is apparent in the central right of the image which greatly contrasts with the reddish brown mass of the field and linear tree lines.
Line Contrast	1.5	There is an abrupt stoppage of natural vegetation where a man straight line is inserted just below the horizon line.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The smooth featureless grey linear mass contrasts strongly with the crops and other natural vegetation.
Color Contrast	1.5	The light grey is apparent in the dark browns of the tree line. The light road surface and sky are balanced by the grey of the solar panels.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	The solar features are at a sufficient distance to allow the view to remain subordinate to the surroundings.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The solar array remains below the horizon line in this image.
Visual Acuity	.5	Although the installation is visible, its discernable features are weak and decrease with distance.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2	There is considerable project clearing in this view although the horizon remains unobstructed.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	There will be a significant amount of screening needed in this example.
Total	12.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	There is a residence and a low use rural farm road directly behind the view.
Duration of View	2	The residents will have longer duration views while the travelers on the road will have sort duration views.
Presence of Existing Development	.5	There is a above ground utility line and a rural farm road in the view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	The view is indicative of rural upstate New York with rolling hills, farmland and trees.
Presence of Water	0	There is no water present in this view.
Total	9.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	Pastoral farmland with aboveground utility lines indicative of the rural area.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 40	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: County Route 125/Morris Tract Road		
Viewpoint Description: view southerly on local road near a residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	Newly introduced form of solar arrays are in the view but due to proximity, screening by existing vegetation and similarities to other horizontal form in view the contrast of form is not high.
Line Contrast	1.5	New line is introduced but somewhat mimics horizontal aspects of ground contour and other horizontal shapes such as field and sky
Texture Contrast	2	Texture contrast compared to surrounding vegetation is moderate.
Color Contrast	3	Abrupt color appearance and contrast appears in view next to darker trees, exposing the Project due to clearing of trees.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	Project vertical scale is low profile. Size of Project shapes are minimal in the partial view where they can be seen. Project is subordinate in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	No
Visual Acuity	2	Project is apparent and exposed due to the clearing of trees.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	2.5	The difference between existing and proposed conditions for Project clearing appears to be more drastic, as it is evident that the Project clearing itself is responsible for the visibility of the Project in this case.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	Although the arrays are on a low travelled road there are few residences near the viewer with unobstructed open long duration views to the Project. Road offset helps moderate the view and there is only partial views that wouldn't really warrant a highly focused effort for mitigation. There is existing vegetation in front of the Project that would act as screening as this vegetation is allowed to grow to maturity. Mitigation would be a redundant effort.
Total	14.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Municipal identified roadway of scenic interest.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Local low travelled road near about 2 residences
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	No existing development that would indicate a high number of people thus a high number of views. There is large transmission line in the view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	10	

Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	View is of open field but shows large transmission line and cell tower in view.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/9/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 42	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: County Route 125		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	The panels are located beyond the fields in the foreground allowing for minimal views to occur at a distance prohibiting any real contrast from occurring.
Line Contrast	0.5	The same note for form contrast applies to line contrast.
Texture Contrast	0.5	The same notes above apply to texture contrast.
Color Contrast	0.5	The same notes above apply to color contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	The same notes above apply to project scale contrast.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels due to distance and location.
Visual Acuity	0	There is little to no visual acuity present due to distance and location of the solar panels.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No discernable clearing can be identified.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1.5	It appears that minimal strategic screening or visual mitigation will be needed in this view however, it should be noted that there are a number of residential properties and/or structures in close proximity to the solar arrays and additional vegetation mitigation may be needed in this area.
Total	4	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	3	NYS Route 12E is in the distance.
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Town listed.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	A number of residential properties and/or residential structures are present in the relative area and some increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	1.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Quite a few residential structures are present in this area (primarily along the roadway) when compared to the surrounding area and seem to serve as a primary gateway to the local town/community nearby.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No presence of water can be discerned in this view but, it should be noted that a small pond or water source can be identified by areal images.
Total	14.5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project		Date: 20210708
Viewpoint Number: 42		Preparer: C. McElroy
Viewpoint Location: County Route 125		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	.5	There is a very perceptible horizontal intervention in the center of the view.
Line Contrast	0	Distance absorbs the perceptibility of the form in this example.
Texture Contrast	0	There is little to no textural contrast with the installation and the surrounding landscape.
Color Contrast	0	In this condition, the solar panels blend seamlessly with the distant tree line.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	.5	The distance to the installation is minimally perceptible in this view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The installation remains below the horizon line in this instance.
Visual Acuity	0	The large span of field between the viewer and the panels creates a very weak visual acuity.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	.5	There is some perceived clearing of the distant tree line in this example.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	There is no need to provide additional screening from this view in this case.
Total	1.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	3	NYS Route 12E is in the distance.
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Town listed.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	There is a low traffic count rural farm road directly behind this viewpoint.
Duration of View	.5	The occasional resident and traveler will experience this view for short amounts of time.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There are several farmhouses, above ground utilities and associated outbuildings in this image.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This scene is common and representative of the general vicinity.
Presence of Water	0	There are no waterbodies in this image.
Total	12	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 42	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: County Route 125		
Viewpoint Description: view northeasterly on local road near a residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	Minimal view of Project and only seeing some partial upper portions of panels. Form mimics that what appears in the existing view, mostly the background trees.
Line Contrast	0.5	Project is hardly discernible. Line from partial views show similar horizontal directions as what is seen in the existing view.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Project, thus texture hardly discernible
Color Contrast	1	A very slight, weak color contrast. Similar to other colors in the view and is visually absorbed by the color of the background trees.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Project is hardly discernible
Broken Horizon Line	0	Project is well below the tree line
Visual Acuity	0.5	Project is barely discernible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None detected.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	Topography screens most of the view.
Total	3.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	3	NYS Route 12E Seaway Trail scenic byway is in the distance.
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	Town listed.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Local low travelled road representative of a group of residences.
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	A number of residences closer to the Project are noted in the view. But still is a low population rural residential situation.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	14.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	View is of open field but there are no features that are outstanding in the view. Development seen farther out.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/9/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 44	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: County Route 59		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The overall panel shapes are visible off in the distance and appear unnatural and foreign to the existing natural vegetation creating contrast however, the man-made utility poles, overhead power lines, shadow in the foreground, and man-made structures help to offset the impacts of contrast.
Line Contrast	1.5	Line contrast is created primarily by the solar panels however, additional lines defining the shadow in the foreground and the existing utilities and structures soften and offset the line contrast created by these new structures proposed in this view.
Texture Contrast	1.5	Texture contrast is present in this view due to the smooth look and feel of the solar panels and arrays as a whole when compared to the natural vegetation found in view however, the clear sky, man-made structures, and shadow in the foreground offset the impacts of contrast to some degree.
Color Contrast	1.5	The colors of the solar panels in this view is not natural and creates contrast with the earth tones found present in the existing vegetation however, the shades/tones of colors of the existing vegetation in the background and the shadow cast in the foreground help to minimize contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays are quite a distance away in this view however, they still dominate to some degree in the landscape – especially when in comparison to the scale of the existing structures.
Broken Horizon Line	0	A large portion of the horizon line is broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	0.5	Minimal discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2.5	The panels are visible from this location and residential structures are located at this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate to the best extent possible including distance as a consideration.
Total	11	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	NYS Route 12E is in the distance.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	A number of residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	2	The residential structures that are present nearby will most likely encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	2	A few residential structures are present in this area.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No presence of water can be discerned in this view.
Total	10	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210708	
Viewpoint Number: 44	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: County Route 59		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	.5	A slim broken grey linear massing can be seen to the right of the farmhouse in the distance.
Line Contrast	.5	The great distance to the panels allows the edges of the installation to blend into the surroundings this image.
Texture Contrast	.5	Greater distance to the fence line and panels creates weaker contrast.
Color Contrast	.5	In this condition, the installation fits neatly into the surrounding colors.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	.5	The range between view and installation creates a weak sense of spatial dominance in this view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	This array does not break the horizon line in this image.
Visual Acuity	.5	The large span of open pasture between the viewer and the installation allows for minimal visual acuity.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	.5	There exists minimally perceived clearing of the distant tree line in this image.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	.5	At this distance from the installation there is minimal need for screening.
Total	4	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	NYS Route 12E is in the distance.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	The number of residents and visitors plus the travelers on the rural farm road is low.
Duration of View	2.5	The residents will have long duration views of this scene.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There are farmhouses, roads and rural outbuildings in this view.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	This view is indicative of the surrounding area.
Presence of Water	0	There is no perceived waterbodies in this view.
Total	9	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project		Date: July 6, 2021
Viewpoint Number: 44		Preparer: J Bartos
Viewpoint Location: County Route 59		
Viewpoint Description: view northerly on local road near a group of residences		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	Minimal and partial view of Project Form mimics horizontal shapes seen in existing conditions.
Line Contrast	0.5	Line from partial views show similar horizontal directions as what is seen in the landscape in existing view.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Project, thus texture hardly discernible
Color Contrast	1.5	A very slight, weak color contrast. Although color appears different next to the surrounding trees, they appear visually absorbed by the color of the background trees.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Project is hardly discernible
Broken Horizon Line	0	Project is below the tree line
Visual Acuity	0.5	Project is barely discernible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None detected.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	Not from this vantage point. Project is far away.
Total	4	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	N/A
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	3	NYS Route 12E Seaway Trail scenic byway is in the distance.
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Local low travelled road representative of a group of residences.
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration view for motorist. Long duration view for residences.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	A number of residences closer to the Project are noted in the view. But still is a low population rural residential situation.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	8.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	View is of open field with residential house. There are no aesthetic features that are outstanding in the view. Development seen farther out with roadside distribution lines.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/9/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 45	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	The solar arrays are visible far off in the distance but, still appear unnatural and foreign to the landscape and existing natural vegetation creating contrast however, distance minimizes impacts quite substantially.
Line Contrast	0.5	Line contrast is created primarily by the solar panels however, distance once again, minimizes impacts quite substantially.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Texture contrast is present in this view due to the smooth look and feel of the solar panels and arrays when compared to the natural vegetation found in view however, distance once again, minimizes impacts quite substantially.
Color Contrast	0.5	The colors of the solar panels in this view is not natural and creates contrast with the earth tones found present in the existing vegetation however, distance once again, minimizes impacts quite substantially.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	The solar arrays are quite a distance away in this view minimizing scale and spatial dominance.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	0.5	Minimal discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No amount of clearing can be confirmed or identified in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0.5	Minimal to no screening mitigation should be needed for this view.
Total	3.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	A few residential properties and/or residential structures are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	0.5	The residential structures that are present nearby will most likely encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	A few residential structures are present in this area.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	1.5	No presence of water can be discerned in this view however, streams can be identified nearby in aerial imagery.
Total	11	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		

General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.
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** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210708	
Viewpoint Number: 45	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	.5	The installation is at such a great distance that the form is barely visible in this view. A small linear grey massing is present in the center of the view creating a weak contrast.
Line Contrast	.5	There is a barely perceptible line of the panel installation in the distance creating a weak contrast with the surrounding context.
Texture Contrast	.5	The great distance to this installation offers an extremely weak textural contrast.
Color Contrast	.5	The grey of the panels blends nicely with the browns, reds and greys of the background scenery offering weak contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	.5	This installation is a sufficient distance to create a very minimal footprint in this view which fits in nicely with the surroundings.
Broken Horizon Line	0	This installation remains below the horizon line throughout the view.
Visual Acuity	.5	The distance is sufficient to provide very weak discernable detail. Only a grey massing is visible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1	The clearing is mostly visible behind the installation but is minimal in scale.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	.5	This view might benefit from minimal screening although could be better suited elsewhere.
Total	4.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	.5	This appears to be a view from a farm to market roadway in a rural setting. Views from this point will be infrequent and short in duration.
Duration of View	.5	This view will be seen by travelers in a moving vehicle. This creates a weak rating.
Presence of Existing Development	2	There is a two-lane low traffic count farm road with private fence lines, above ground utility lines, residential houses, and farm buildings.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This represents the local area and is indicative of land use in the region.
Presence of Water	1	There is a small drainage in the foreground.
Total	10.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	The view is a semi intact rural landscape containing homesteads and fields that create strong values while allowing rural sprawl clutter an low diversity weakened the quality.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021
Viewpoint Number: 45	Preparer: J Bartos
Viewpoint Location: NYS Route 12E/ Great Lakes Seaway Trail Scenic Byway	
Viewpoint Description: view northerly on local road near a residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: Transportation Corridor	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	0.5	Minimal and partial view of Project Form mimics horizontal shapes seen in existing conditions.
Line Contrast	0.5	Line from partial views show similar horizontal directions as what is seen in the landscape in existing view.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Project, thus texture hardly discernible
Color Contrast	1	A weak color contrast can be discerned against surrounding trees, enough to be noticeable. But for this view under these conditions, the color of arrays are also similar to the color of the sky
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Project is hardly discernible at this distance and is extremely subordinate in the view.
Broken Horizon Line	0	Project is below the tree line
Visual Acuity	1	Project is noticeable at distance but is details are barely discernible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None detected.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	Not from this vantage point. Project is far away.
Total	4	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating

Within a Visual Resource*	3	Great Lakes Seaway Trail Scenic Byway.
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	3	This section of the roadway is also a scenic byway identified as the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	State Road might present a greater number of transient viewers but there appears to only be one resident nearby
Duration of View	1	Short duration view for motorist that comparatively would outnumber the one resident with a longer duration view.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	A group of residences can be seen in the right of the view. But still is a low population rural residential situation.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	11	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	2	There are varying depths, textures and framing of trees in open land in addition to a classic wood farm fence that makes this view visually appealing.
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 7/9/2021	
Viewpoint Number: 49	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	The overall panel shapes appear unnatural and foreign to the existing surroundings creating contrast however, the man-made block wall structure does alleviate some impact of contrast.
Line Contrast	2.5	Strong line contrast is created by the tops of the solar panels and is clearly defined by the blue sky above. Additional line contrast is present from the fencing proposed as well.
Texture Contrast	2	Texture contrast is present in this view as it relates to the natural vegetation however, the smooth appearance of the manicured/mowed grass, the existing block structure, and clear blue sky offset the impacts of contrast to some degree.
Color Contrast	2	The colors of the solar panels and fencing in this view creates a well-defined color band contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The solar arrays and fencing dominate the middle ground landscape in this view.
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	A large portion of the horizon line is broken by the panels in this view.
Visual Acuity	2	A fair amount of discernable details of the panels and fence line are present in this view.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	There appears to be farmland present in this location and no amount of clearing can be confirmed in this view.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a public ballfield is located in the immediate areas with residential structures located nearby to this viewpoint. Appropriate visual mitigation/screening efforts will be needed to mitigate views.
Total	18.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Several residential properties and/or residential structures and a public ballfield are present in this area and additional/increased views will occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Duration of View	2.5	The residential structures and public ballfield that are present nearby will encounter a long-term duration of views. Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	A few residential structures and a ballfield are present in this area.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	1	No presence of water can be discerned in this view but, it should be noted that a nearby stream can be identified by areal images.

Total	11	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view seems average and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: 20210708	
Viewpoint Number: 49	Preparer: C. McElroy	
Viewpoint Location: G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field		
Viewpoint Description:		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The dark horizontal massing of the installation stretches across the view creating strong contrast with the open field and distant tree line.
Line Contrast	2	The newly introduced horizontal line of the panels and vertical lines of the security fence create strong contrast.
Texture Contrast	2	The fence is close enough to the viewer that the vertical and horizontal fence posts can clearly be seen.
Color Contrast	2	Dark massing of the panels creates strong contrast with the light green massing of the vegetation and the sky.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The installation stretches across the view but in a subordinate roll compared to the sky and grass field.
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	The installation creates a broken horizon line for most of the view in this example.
Visual Acuity	2.5	The panels and fence line are close enough to the viewer to offer a high amount of discernable detail.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1	There appears to be minimal up front clearing in this image. Clearing can be seen behind the installation.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	This view will need a major screening intervention.
Total	18.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	3	This location is at a ball park that will have many visitors on the weekends.
Duration of View	1	The ball park visitors will have short duration views during hours long stays.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	There is existing ball park, out buildings and field in the forefront followed by a tree line in the distance.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	.5	This view is indicative of the surrounding area and generally represents the vicinity.
Presence of Water	0	There is no water in this view.
Total	9	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	Gently rolling hills with distant tree line offering unobstructed pastoral views with less vegetative diversity.

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Riverside Solar Project	Date: July 6, 2021	
Viewpoint Number: 49	Preparer: J Bartos	
Viewpoint Location: G. Spence Donaldson Memorial Field		
Viewpoint Description: view northeasterly from the playing field		
Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The contrast of new hard form compared to existing background vegetation is high.
Line Contrast	2.5	There are similar horizontal lines seen in the existing view such as the horizontal aspects of sky and field but those lines are softer. The lines are harsher under proposed conditions.
Texture Contrast	2	There's a smoother texture appearing under proposed conditions as opposed to the natural vegetation in the existing view.
Color Contrast	2.5	Dark color of the arrays provide high contrast against the existing green field and light blue sky
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	Size and scale of Project does not overwhelm the view.
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	Horizon line is broken but there are not large or irregular vertical components that push into the sky interface.
Visual Acuity	2	Project is noticeable from this vantage point.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	1.5	It appears trees have been cleared and is responsible for creating some of the contrasts.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2.5	While viewers would be non-permanent, views of the arrays might be distracting for recreational activities.
Total	19.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Donaldson Memorial Ballfield. A recreation area.
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	N/A
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	N/A
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Likely a moderate number of viewers on a given recreational event. Likely no viewers on many days and over the winter months.
Duration of View	1.5	These would be short duration views over a period of hours.
Presence of Existing Development	0	None seen in the view outside of the property.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	7.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	A semi developed location (ballfield) in a pretty area

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

Contrast Rating Panel Qualifications

1. Michael Ross

Education

Bachelor of Science, Landscape Architecture, The Pennsylvania State Univ., University Park, PA, 1995

Professional Registrations/Certifications/Training:

- Pennsylvania Registered Landscape Architect License No. LA002697
- West Virginia Registered Landscape Architect License No. 416
- Colorado Registered Landscape Architect License No. LA1362
- North Carolina Registered Landscape Architect License No. 2096
- Maryland DNR Forest Conservation Qualified Professional

Memberships/Associations:

- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)
- Counsel of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)

Area of Expertise

Mr. Ross has more than 23 years of experience in the profession of Landscape Architecture that includes:

- All aspects of the Land Development Submission process
- Civil Site Plan Development
- Site Analysis, Field Scoping Views, and Formal Survey Requests
- Due Diligence Reports and Utility Coordination
- Conceptual Design and Exhibit Presentations for Client
- Prime and/or Sub-Consultant Interaction and Consultation
- LEED Certified and Sustainable project site design
- Master planning, Estate planning, and Streetscaping
- Hardscape and Planting design/implementation
- All aspects of Permitting Approvals including: E&S/NPDES, HOP, PHMC, Zoning, Planning, and SALDO
- Design/build implementation and processes and Phased planning/design
- Project management and coordination with general and/or subcontractors throughout the construction process
- Program Manager for project site Visual Simulation Efforts

2. Corban McElroy

Education

M.L.A., Master of Landscape Architecture, University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO
B.A., Land Use – Geographic information Systems, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver, CO

Professional Registrations/Certifications/Training

- Associate Member, American Society of Landscape Architecture, ASLA
- Certified verifier – 2020, Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team, Habitat Quantification Tool (HQT)

Areas of Expertise

Mr. McElroy has over 10 years of professional GIS experience.

- Landscape Inspection
- Landscape Design
- Seismic Survey
- PLSS (Public Land Survey System)
- MTP (Master Title Plat)
- Oil and gas and government datasets and clients
- ESRI ArcGIS Software (ArcMap, Arc Pro), CAD-GIS-GPS Data conversion
- GCDB (geographic Co-ordinate Database), Mobile GPS Data Collection (Trimble, Leica, Garmin) processing and integration into GIS, AutoCAD, Adobe Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign)

3. Judy Bartos

Education

Master of Science, Soil Science, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, September 1994
Bachelor of Science, Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1989
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Minor in Art History; University of Massachusetts, 1987

Areas of Expertise

Ms. Bartos has 26 years of cumulative experience in the following:

- GIS 10.7 ArcInfo/Spatial Analyst/3D Analyst; ArcServer/sde Geodatabase; 3DS Max 2016; Global Mapper; Infracore, Visual Nature Studio 3; AutoCad; ArcGIS Pro 2.5
- Three-Dimensional Modeling, Photosimulation, Viewshed Analysis, Line-of-Sight, Advanced Terrain Analysis, Linear Referencing, Shadow Study, Advanced Geodatabases
- Author of Visual Impact Assessments since 2002
- Expert Testimony for Visual Impact Assessments and Photosimulations
- Wind Farm and Generating Facility siting studies
- Observation and evaluation of: Soils, Glacial Geology, Hydrology, Landform Interpretation, Ecology, Forest Community Assessment, Stream Characterization, Wildlife Habitat Assessment
- Former B.F.A. and minor in Art History professional degree in the arts focused on technical aspects of composition, color theory, and design using different media as well as observation and critical evaluation of visual compositions including contemporary and historic masters as well as modern photography.

Attachment 8: Aesthetic Resources – 2 to 5 Miles

Aesthetic Resource – Two to Five Miles

The table below lists 46 resources that may be found between two and five miles from the Facility Site. The location of each resource is numerically referenced on the below table and shown on the following Figure 1.

Inventory of Aesthetic Resources Between Two and Five Miles

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)
Scenic Byways			
129	NYS Route 12F / Black River Trail Scenic Byway ¹	Town of Hounsfield	4.6
Historic Sites			
	<i>Historic Districts – Listed⁴</i>		
123	Point Salubrious Historic District (USN 04516.000171)	Town of Lyme	2.28
124	The Row (90NR03003)	Town of Lyme	4.33
127	Three Mile Bay Historic District (90NR03006)	Town of Lyme	4.02
	<i>Historic Sites – Listed (outside of the listed district)</i>		
120	Dexter Universalist Church (02NR04999)	Village of Dexter	4.08
121	Elijah Horr House (96NR00950)	Town of Orleans	5.0
122	Irwin Brothers Store (90NR01147)	Town of Orleans	4.97
125	Stevenson Frink Farm 89NR001625	Town of Town of Hounsfield	4.16
126	Stone Mills Union Church (90NR01150)	Town of Orleans	5.00
130	Taft House (90NR03004)	Town of Lyme	4.23
134	Taylor Boat House (90NR03005)	Town of Lyme	4.08

Inventory of Aesthetic Resources Between Two and Five Miles

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)
135	Menzo Wheeler House (90NR02999)	Town of Lyme	4.00
136	Old Stone Shop (90NR03000)	Town of Lyme	3.94
143	Campbell House (USN 04551.000009)	Village of Dexter	4.06
144	Captain John Bradely House (USN 04551.000008)	Village of Dexter	3.90
145	Joseph Underwood House (USN 04551.000010)	Village of Dexter	4.03
<i>Historic Sites – Eligible</i>			
131	8545 NYS Route 12E (USN 04513.000061)	Town of Lyme	4.17
132	United Methodist Church (USN 04513.000066)	Town of Lyme	4.12
133	8612 NYS Route 12E (USN 04513.000069)	Town of Lyme	4.08
137	2 Story Bay Limestone House (USN 04513.000107)	Town of Lyme	3.97
138	2.5 Story Cross-Gables Residence with Dairy Barns (USN 04513.000108)	Town of Lyme	4.48
139	2.5 Story Cross-Gables Residence with Silo (USN 04513.000113)	Town of Lyme	3.17
140	10986 CR 125 Residence (USN 04513.000198)	Town of Lyme	2.08
141	10500 CR 125 Residence (USN 04513.000199)	Town of Lyme	2.72
142	First National Bank of Dexter (USN 04551.000057)	Village of Dexter	4.17

Inventory of Aesthetic Resources Between Two and Five Miles

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)
Public Parks or Recreation Areas			
102	NYSDEC Three Mile Bay Boat Launch	Town of Lyme	3.93
103	Ashland Flats Wildlife Management Area	Town of Lyme	4.77
105	Dexter Marsh Wildlife Management Area	Town of Brownville	4.01
106	Brownville State Game Farm	Town of Brownville	4.10
107	Perch River Wildlife Management Area	Town of Brownville	4.45
108	Dexter Memorial Field	Village of Dexter	3.90
109	Fish Island Park	Village of Dexter	4.26
110	NYSDEC Dexter Boat Launch	Village of Dexter	4.21
115	Rustic Golf and Country Club	Town of Brownville	4.11
High-Use Public Areas			
101	Hamlet of Three Mile Bay	Town of Lyme	4.09
104	Hamlet of Depaulville	Town of Clayton	3.92
113	Village of Dexter	Town of Brownville	4.07
114	Hamlet of Limerick	Town of Brownville	2.63
Other			
111	Dexter Elementary	Village of Dexter	3.87
112	General Brown School District	Town of Brownville	4.09
116	Long Point Road	Town of Lyme	4.85
117	Wells Cement Road	Town of Lyme	4.40
118	Old Swamp Road ²	Town of Lyme	5.00
119	Three Mile Point Road	Town of Lyme	2.32

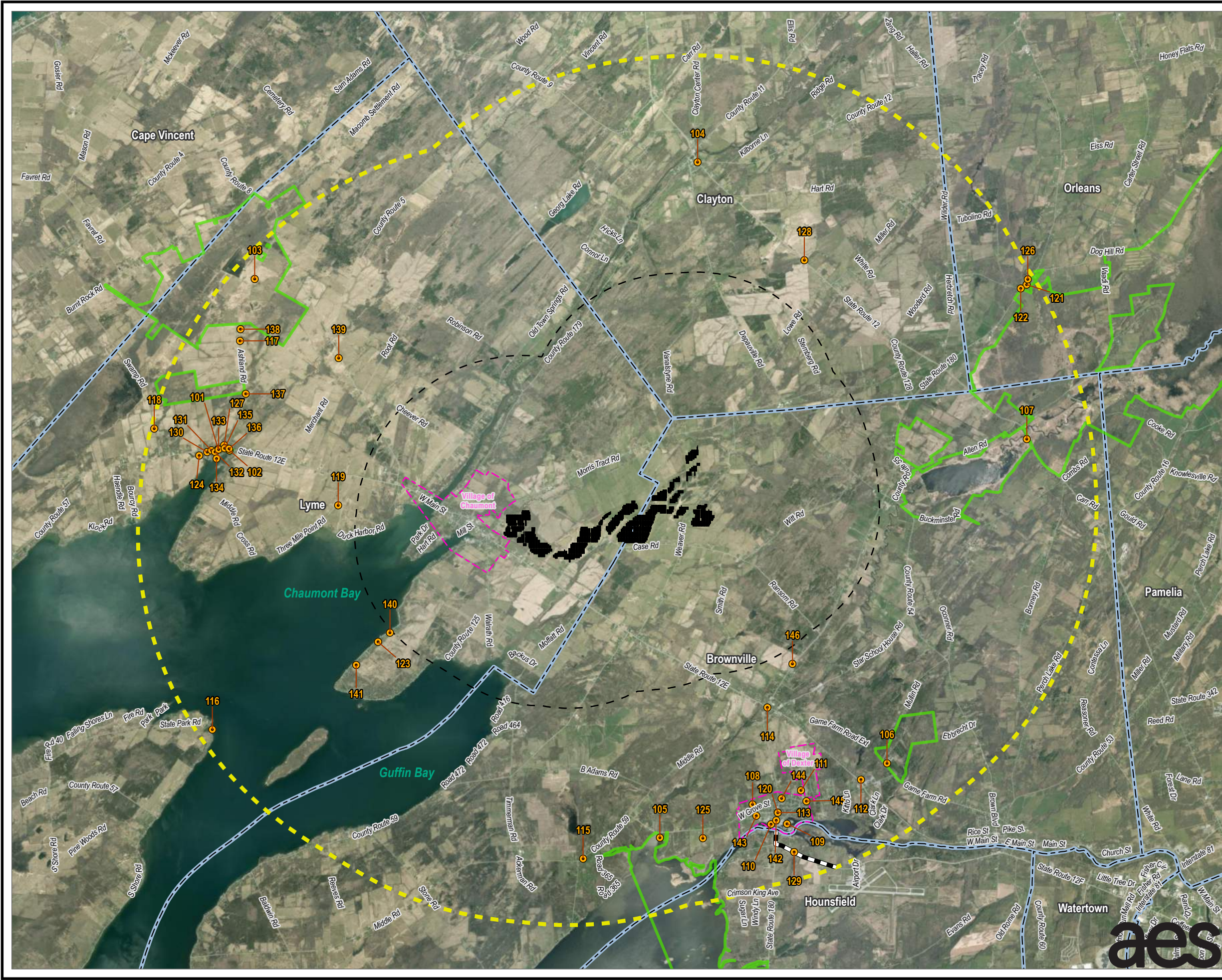
Inventory of Aesthetic Resources Between Two and Five Miles

Map ID	Resource Name	Municipality	Distance to Facility Site (miles)
128	NYS Route 12	Towns of Clayton and Brownville	2.67
146	NYS Route 180	Towns of Brownville, Clayton, Hounsfield, and Orleans	See Note Below ³

¹ The Black River Trail Scenic Byway also coincides with a small portion of NYS Route 180.

² Long Point Road, Wells Cement Road, Old Swamp Road, and Three Mile Point Road are local corridors of scenic quality based on the Village of Chaumont and/or Town of Lyme Comprehensive Land Use Plans.

³ Although there is a small section of NYS Route 180 within the two mile study area, it is identified within this listing as there is a greater length of the roadway within the 2-5 miles radius and a small segment of the route coincides with the Black River Trail Scenic Byway (in the vicinity of the Village of Dexter).



LEGEND

- AESTHETIC RESOURCES
- BLACK RIVER TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY
- NYSDEC WMA LANDS
- PROPOSED PV ARRAY
- TWO MILE STUDY AREA
- FIVE MILE STUDY AREA
- VILLAGE BOUNDARY
- TOWN BOUNDARY

NOTES:

1. THIS FIGURE IS DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED OR PRINTED IN COLOR AT 11X17.

BASE MAP: ESRI "WORLD STREET MAP" 2021 ONLINE SERVICE LAYER.
DATA SOURCES: AES, TRC, NYSGIS, NYSDEC, 2021.

1:84,000
1" = 7,000'

0 3,500 7,000 FEET

PROJECT: RIVERSIDE SOLAR LLC TOWNS OF LYME & BROWNVILLE JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY	
TITLE: AESTHETIC RESOURCE OVERVIEW BETWEEN 2 & 5 MILES	
DRAWN BY: A. KAILAS	PROJ. NO.: 373222
CHECKED BY: J. GUARIGLIA	FIGURE 1
APPROVED BY: S. KRANES	
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021	
215 GREENFIELD PKWY, STE 102 LIVERPOOL, NY 13088	